Crimean War

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Sir Thomas Longmore.

Crimean War

Vol. I

Crimean War.

Of interest as a record of impressions made by events at the time they occurred.

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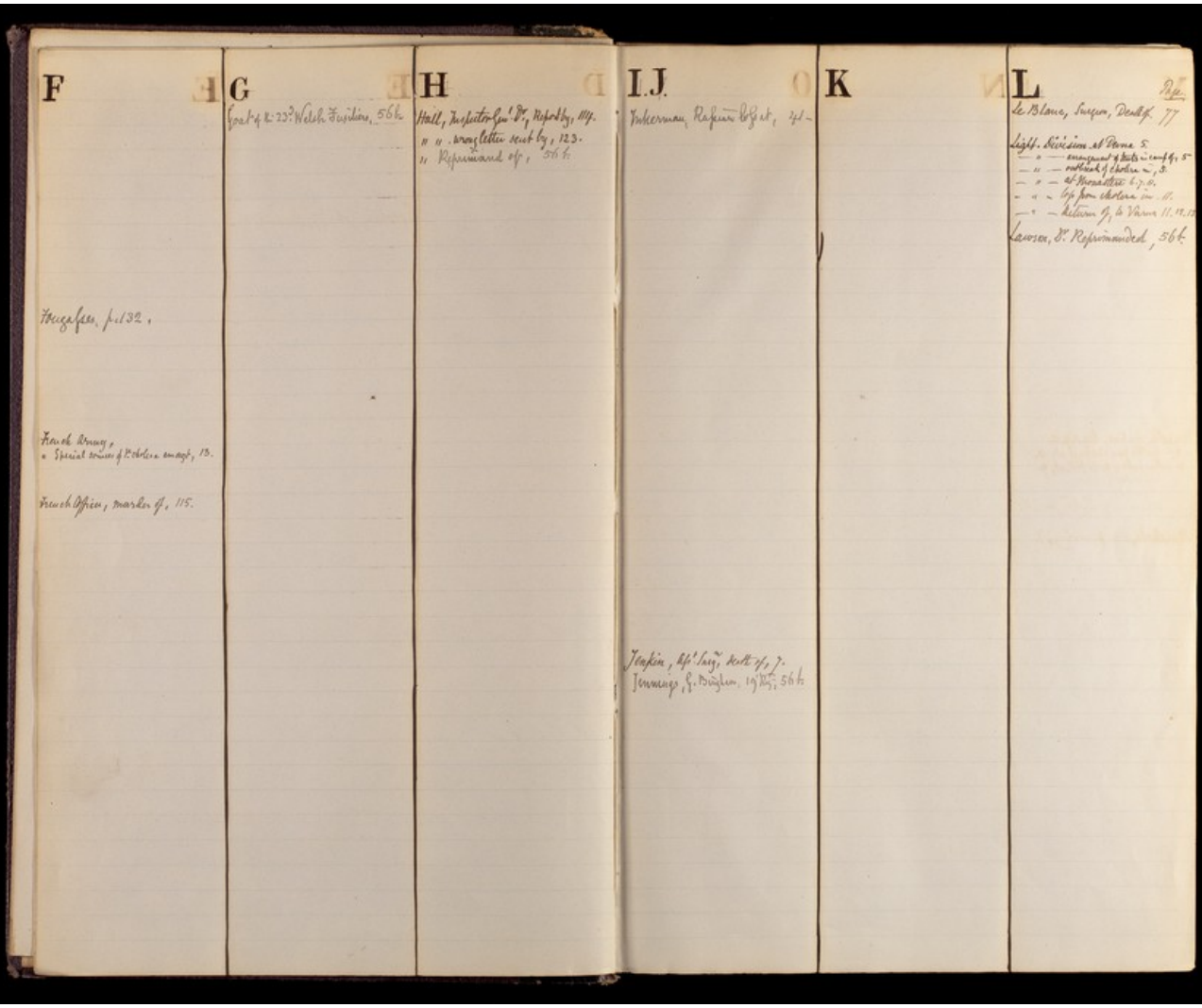

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The Sweet-scented Flag. (Calamus aromaticus)

Journal of Lieut Dw. at Scutari.

HINTS FOR THE ARMY IN TURKEY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—If it be true that "fas est ab hoste doceri," I may, perhaps, be pardoned for intruding on your valuable columns; but as the army destined to co-operate with the Turks will have to encounter more deadly foes than the Russians, with whom they will have to cope—namely, fever and dysentery, I may be permitted to offer a few remarks thereon, which, as a humble planter in the field, I noted down during a residence of several years in the East, especially among Cossacks, Tartars, and Circassians.

I am not, however, so sanguine as one of the sages of old, who says, "Cur moriatur homo, cui salvia crescit in horto?" but, as prevention is better than cure, and in all probability quinine, from its high price, will be confined solely to hospital practice, or to the dressing-case of the officers, it may be advisable to let the soldiers know on disembarking at Gallipoli, &c., that in the marshes and on the borders of the embrowne lakes there grows a herb which, *entente paribus*, will prove their *Agis* or shield against, being both a preventive and cure of diseases arising from marsh miasmata.

It is the sweet-scented flag (calamus aromaticus), of the roots of which every man should have a handful in his knapsack, shaving it daily *ad libitum*, or, what is still better, powdering it and taking a teaspoonful two or three times a day in a little water; if a teaspoonful or two of the weed or brandy of the country be added to it, the better. It is often substituted for tea and coffee by the Russians, and makes a very agreeable beverage; in fact, having myself used it extensively in practice, I can safely pronounce it one of the most valuable and cheap drugs in the whole *Pharmacopœia*.

Premising that this hint will not be lost sight of by the medical department, which, no doubt, has issued the instructions for the preservation of the health and valuable lives of our "raw recruits" (thereby preventing a repetition of the awful mortality of Walcheren, of which I was an eye-witness), I will conclude by stating that, unless due care be taken to supply the troops with beef from England, or rather from Tunis, Otaa, and other places on the coast of Barbary, where it is abundant (the Dobrudscha, whence the Turks have hitherto been supplied with it being in the possession of the Russians), dysentery with all its horrors will consume its ravages, for no British soldier can escape if confined to a diet of goat's flesh, sour wine, and fruits, on which he will have to exhibit.

I may add that among the Don Cossacks an excellent substitute for quinine or Peruvian bark is composed of equal parts oak bark, cynosa, sweet-scented flag, and black pepper. In Circassia gentian is used in lieu of cynosa, where it grows in great abundance on the hills, and when in bloom nothing can be more beautiful.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. W. GRAVES,
Late Physician to the Governor-General
London, April 24. during the war in Poland.

Camp, Scutari, May 13th, 1854.

We arrived at Constantinople on the 9th instant. The passage of the Dardanelles as to the scenery, fortifications, towns, &c., exceeded all that I had ever imagined in beauty and interest. We passed many French transports—great cheering and mutual salutations of course. Gallipoli appears to be a large town, but we did not land; there are now 20,000 French and 5,000 English troops there. Constantinople realises all my expectations of it. I wish you could see the view from my tent: the coup d'œil is magnificent. Conceive an extensive but gently undulating plain, with a semi-circular outline on the right hand, sloping towards a valley, across which stretches on the left a Cemetery, and a broad belt of cypress trees which appears to extend for miles, shading the thickly scattered graves. The tombstones are generally of white marble, some elaborately sculptured and highly gilded, forming conspicuous objects among the dark green trees. Nearly the whole of the sloping part of the plain is covered with tents. Commencing at the Cemetery, and following the semi-circular outline, are encamped the 19th, 77th, 90th, 7th, 23rd, and 33rd regiments. Here a portion of a very pretty and picturesque Turkish village, with its brown roofs and green trees intersected, interrupts the line of tents; then follows the encampment of the brigade of Guards, which extends again to the Cemetery, thus completing the semi-circle. At one point of the ridge, above the tents, rises the roof of the large Turkish Military Hospital, a magnificent structure, and exceedingly well adapted for its object. The two lower stories are now occupied by Turkish patients; the uppermost story by the sick of the British force in this neighbourhood. Around the whole of the scene is the dark blue waters of the Sea of Marmora, with here and there a dark rock abruptly rising from its surface. Immediately in front, beyond the part of the plain where the Guards are encamped, this water forms a deep bay, on the opposite shore of which is a range of hills dotted with white villages; still more distant is a dark range of mountains, and beyond this again rises a portion of the Taurus range, with Mount Olympus, covered with snow and shining brightly in the sunlight. The Rifle Brigade and 92nd Highlanders are close to us, but are hid from sight, being on the opposite slope of our ridge. Other troops are in barracks in this neighbourhood, one of which is constructed to hold 3,000 men. We have two batteries of artillery nearly complete here, and more are daily expected. They, the stores, and the cavalry, are anxiously looked for.

All persons here agree that there has been a great absence of good management and method on the part of certain departments of the English army, especially as compared with the systematic arrangements of the French. Their army was preceded by Quartermasters, Commissaries, &c., so that their troops found everything prepared for them. We had six regiments here and nothing ready for them; for some time there was much confusion and makeshift. We have seen nothing of the cheap porter or other supplies that were so much talked of in England. Everything has become very dear at Constantinople and in the neighbourhood, from the immensely increased demand, and many of the officers are already in difficulties from having to supply themselves, not only with the necessary outfit for service in the field, but also to provide the means of transport for themselves. We have to buy horses or mules to carry, not only our personal baggage, but even our tents, cooking utensils, &c. I am sure this is not generally known in England. You may imagine that what is called the extraordinary field allowance (1s. 6d. a-day to Subalterns, 2s. 6d. a day to Captains) will not meet such outlays as these. I am told that this is only the case with the line, that in the other departments the tents, &c., are carried for the officers. Some of us are about to move to the Black Sea almost immediately, probably to Varna: this seems certain, for the Captains of the steam transports are ordered to be ready to receive troops on Tuesday next. The light division in which I am, is expected to move first. It consists of two brigades, the 7th, 23rd, and 33rd being the first, and the 19th, 77th, and 90th regiments the second brigade. Constantinople is full of people of every variety of costume—representatives of every European and Asiatic nation. I went through the process of a Turkish bath to-day, and by means of my Turkish vocabulary, I contrived to have a little talk with one of the attendants. He evidently had great doubt about our fighting with the Russians, because, he said, the French, English, and Muscovites all worshipped the same Christos, while the Osmanlis followed Mahomet—besides, the Muscovs were so many and the Franks so few. I am now writing in my tent, and the dogs in the neighbouring Turkish burial ground are making a furious barking. If you have read any book descriptive of Constantinople, (or Istambool as it is here called, to distinguish it from Galata, Pera, and Scutari,) you must have read of these dogs. My horse is all right; he appears healthy and good tempered, much in his favour and mine. Love to all, &c.

Troops at Varna.

News from Shadyn.

Porter in Bulgaria.

GOSSIP FROM THE ARMY AT VARNA.—Extract of a letter from an English officer addressed to a friend, dated Gebtza, near Varna, June 8:—

We have been encamped here several days, and move on next Monday. Marshal St. Arnaud and General Brown were to have inspected us to-day. The whole division was under arms, but both weather and roads being very bad, an aide de camp was sent over to postpone it. We are in a very pretty country, by the side of a small lake, of which there appears to be a series between Varna and our next station Devine. The 8th and 11th Hussars, are a few miles in advance of us. Opposite to our encampment, separated by a broad valley, are three batteries of Horse Artillery, an ammunition train, &c. Within sight are two villages nearly deserted by their inhabitants. Our supplies are very precarious. We have had no better since we have been in this part of the country. We go out foraging, and sometimes contrive to get some eggs, sometimes a goose or a fowl, but nothing is certain, except our bare rations of 1½lb. of bread or biscuit, and 1lb of meat, salt or fresh, as the case may be. Our best meat is mutton, indeed the Turks never eat beef when they can avoid it; the ox is used entirely for draught—never fattened for food. The chief Turkish physician at Varna told me that if a Turk saw a friend eating beef he would say to him, "Wrist, my poor friend, are you obliged to eat beef?" Mutton and lamb first, then goat's flesh, then beef. Our bread is very bad, dark brown in colour, and coarse. The French have very good bread, because they make and bake it themselves, whilst ours is got through commissariat contract. Tea is our great standby, of which we laid in a good stock, and we have now and then a small quantity of brown sugar, rice, and black tea through the commissariat. The last two days the men of my regiment have had nothing beyond their hour rations, as that dry bread, coffee without sugar, with one day soft meat, the next very indifferent beef, was all they had from morning to night. Of all the luxuries the men looked forward to, the neat allowance of English porter was the greatest. We had it for three days while at Varna, but never before nor since. The Superintending Commissariat Officer told me there was plenty at Varna, and no difficulty in its conveyance here, only nine miles, but General Brown, who commands our division, would not allow it to be sent. He said it was a luxury—unnecessary, and encouraged drunkenness. I am sure it would have the opposite effect. It would prevent their getting a vile spirit called Rikí, which they have sometimes the opportunity of buying, and which at Varna literally poors some of the men violently mad, and caused several to be flogged. Porter would have a beneficial effect upon the health of the troops, I am sure, considering their many deprivations. I wish you would forward my remarks on this subject to the *Daily News*, for both officers and men look upon this as a grievance, believing that when the government and people of England arranged that porter should be sent to the troops, it was intended to be supplied as regularly as possible. The head of the medical department here has remonstrated on the subject officially. Other generals, we learn, are doing all they can to procure a regular supply of it for their men. We (the Light Division) who are the pioneers of the army, who construct roads and dig wells for those who come after us, should at least fare as well as the others. The 3rd Dragoons had several casks of porter on hand when leaving Varna, and though the officers wished to bring them on at their own expense, it was not permitted by General Brown, and they were compelled to return it into store. The ground is said to be a good commissariat of the old school, referring everything to the Peninsular standard. We get no potatoes—they are not grown here, nor any other vegetable. The wine of the country is only to be got in the towns, and it is wretched stuff, requiring spice, sugar, etc., to make it palatable. I have found my India rubber articles of great use in my tent. I have brought two baggage ponies, and get on now very fairly. Several of the English horses have died; mine, I am happy to say, is all right, except a slight temporary lameness."

AN OFFICER'S LETTER FROM THE CAMP NEAR VARNA.

Copy of a letter from an officer of the Light Division of the expeditionary army, dated

CAMP ALADYN, nine miles from VARNA, June 23.

Your welcome letter of the 20th May only reached me a few days back—the first received since I left England. I was sitting on the ground (we have very few of the camp stools or other Chobham Camp luxuries now), in my tent, while a tremendous storm of rain with lightning, &c. was passing over us. Latterly the heat has been very great in the day time; the thermometer now stands at upwards of 90 Fahr. in my tent, in spite of every contrivance to keep it cool. What it would be in the sun I cannot say. The sun has a remarkably scorching effect; the cuticle from our faces and ears is constantly peeling off. The evenings, however, are pleasantly cool. Will it be believed in England that in spite of this great heat, and notwithstanding all that has been said on the subject, the men of the light division are compelled to wear the stock at parade, at drill, and going on or returning from fatigue duty; it is only on a march that it is left to their option to leave them off or not. The Duke of Cambridge seems to have ideas in advance of some of the older generals; the men of his division have thrown their stocks aside altogether, not wearing them even on going into town. I have been speaking against this tightening of the men's throats for years, but it is only when the press takes up matters of this kind that old customs can be got rid of. Our defective dress is most marked on comparing it with that of the French soldier; his throat and upper part of the chest unencumbered for respiration; his loose trousers imparting coolness, and giving ease to his movements; his pack that he can put on and off without assistance, are all obvious advantages. Since we came to this ground, we have seen nothing of the French; with my glass I can just see some of their tents on a very considerable height, apparently about seven or eight miles off as the crow flies. They are about the same distance from Varna as we, in a more southerly direction; the head-quarters of each force is at Varna. The Duke of Cambridge's division is now encamped on our old ground near that town. An officer who came in from Varna to-day told me that he saw casks of porter going up to the Guards' camp. I am sure the duke will not let them be without while it is to be got. We have not had a drop since we have been here. What a treat it would be! and how beneficial for the health of the men! We lost one man from cholera three days ago—he died in seven hours, and many others have been attending hospital yesterday and to-day with diarrhœa, and I observe that the men of my regiment generally are falling off in condition, and becoming weak, which I attribute to their irregular diet, and to their drinking the wine of the country upon comparatively empty stomachs. Their dinner this day consisted—as has been the case ever since our arrival here—of meat boiled in water alone, without the addition of rice, barley, meal, or any vegetable or condiment whatever. No groceries have been issued for the morning or evening meals since the 8th instant, and yet, with all this, Sir George Brown refuses us the porter as an unnecessary luxury. The health and efficiency of this division will be materially affected if a change do not speedily take place.

We have been in this camp since the 8th inst. The place we are going to, Dewena (pronounced Devenagh), is described as a sandy plain between high hills, without wood, and without any means of getting supplies nearer than Shumla or Varna. If we are badly off here then, what may we expect to be there? But I see no present possibility of getting there. We have only just carts enough to bring us our daily rations of bread. We have no organised waggon train, and to the absence of it, I presume, may our present delay be attributed, and indirectly, if not directly, nearly all the inconveniences we are suffering from. Here again our shrewd allies beat us hollow. Before the French landed they had bought waggons, bullocks, or mules, &c., and brought with them a regular waggon train. The commissary in charge of the Light Division told me that at the present moment we have only 30 regular commissariat carts for the whole army, and only one field ambulance. They had, to they imagined, a number of bullock carts of the country ready for use, but either from some misunderstanding about wages, or from a more attractive offer elsewhere, the men absconded with their bullocks and left us crippled. We fear being compelled to leave our tents behind, not having means to carry food for the baggage animals. Our arrangements for the sick and wounded are alike deficient. I have just been to the commissariat field, and they tell me they cannot even give to the hospital the bullocks and drivers required to take the hospital marquée and stores. I was much pleased the other day at the hospital train of one of the French regiments who landed at Varna: there were a number of mules provided with a sort of seat on each side for a sick man—not unlike children's seats on donkeys at our watering places: each animal carried two men, who could get into their seat or get down without any difficulty. No such ingenious contrivances with us.

Orders are issued by the Commander-in-Chief, but not carried out from the want of means. A long time ago Lord Raglan issued orders for every regiment to have a tent for the distribution of porter, grocery stores, &c., which were to be obtained twice a week from the commissariat. I dare say if the question were asked in parliament if we got these good things, some official personage would reply that we did, because he had seen a copy of Lord Raglan's order, but to this day we have not had a drop of porter, and only at rare intervals a very limited supply of grocery, &c.

The country is exceedingly pretty, with plenty of mountain, wood, and water to make it picturesque, but without a good house or any mark of civilization. Two villages are near us, but they are nothing more than a wretched collection of hovels. We got a few eggs, and some sheep's and goat's milk from them, and now and then some fowls, geese, or a turkey. Geese are cheaper than fowls. The other day a steward from one of the transport vessels at Varna brought to the camp two cartloads of supplies for sale: there was such a rush upon them that the fellow had to get a sentry over his carts to be able to carry on his traffic. I walked off in triumph with a ham over my shoulder for our little mess, for which, however, I had to pay 1l. 5s. sterling. At Varna, the French have made quite a change—opened the streets and opened one or two restaurants. I rode in once from camp, and bought some red Cognac, some English mustard, pickles, onions, &c., at one of the French shops. Shooting here is very indifferent—drives are almost the only birds to be got. Tortoises are numerous, and some of our people make soup of them. I have not tasted any, but it is said to be very good. Yesterday we got a dish of cray-fish, and they were very excellent. We have no vegetables whatever; we miss them very much. The postage from England, *viâ* Marseilles, is only 5d.—nothing charged here: tell my friends how acceptable their letters would be.

A SOLDIER'S LETTER FROM THE CAMP NEAR VARNA.

CAMP NEAR ALADYN, JUNE 18.

It is with pleasure I write you a few lines, that you may know I am still in the land of the living. I have not much time, so will give you only our principal news, but first, I have not had any letter from England in answer to mine from Gibraltar and Scutari, and it is only within this month that any private soldier received a letter. We have heard that they were not permitted to be sent, although the officers receive their letters and papers. We left Scutari on the 29th May, that is our light division of two brigades; our regiment went on board the *Andes*, screw steamer, and in three days landed at Varna: we had been encamped one month and four days at Scutari. We struck our tents on the 5th June, and marched six miles to this place (Aladyn in Bulgaria.) This is a fine country, like a park, but uncultivated. There are the ruins of the ancient city of Aladyn, but nothing now remains but a village of mud huts. We are off to the seat of actual war on the 22nd, and we have a forced march of eighty miles to be up in time to assist the brave Turks, who are keeping the bears at bay. It is expected we shall have to leave our tents, there being no conveyance; the pack-horses and mules could get no further up the country. There has been great talk at home about the tea, coffee, rice, and spirits, and porter (the most wanted), that has been sent out to the troops; but where is it all? We had ¾ pints served out to each man for three days at Varna, and that is all; and the tea, coffee, and sugar, about four times, to last four days, with 2lb. biscuit and 1lb. salt junk, with water for breakfast, dinner, and tea—do they call this taking care of the British soldiers? When some of the men complained, they were told it was only a boon or favour granted to them by command—if so why is it boasted about in England of the comforts of her soldiers abroad? If the men were promised a few comforts, why not let them have them, or let it be as of old, pound and pound, they would not expect it then.

Use of Stocks in Bulgaria.

THE GARROTTE IN THE ENGLISH ARMY.—A "Soldier of the Light Division" has addressed us the following from the camp near Devna, dated July 14:—

Judging from the reports in the newspapers the press and the people of England appear to be under the impression that the use of the stock has been given up. Such is not the case in this division of the army, whatever it may be in others. Last Sunday all the troops were ordered to wear their stocks at church parade, and only those who had them on know the sense of oppression and suffocation they produced in the burning heat of the sun, close together as we were, trying to listen to the remarks of the minister. General officers and others do not wear the stock; and will not believe either the men or the doctors when they speak against them. The press alone can rid us of this painful collar. I send you copies of the orders which the general of this division has published, and which will show how far the stock has been abandoned. We have to keep them in our knapsacks, and show them at all kit inspections.

"District Orders.—Camp, Varna, June 15.—By command of the Commander of the Forces the non-commissioned officers and men are henceforth to be permitted to march without their stocks, but it is to be understood that no handkerchief nor any other substitute is to be allowed for the stock, and that if it is not worn the neck is to be left bare.—By command.

W. SULLIVAN, A. A. G.

After this order the soldiers turned down the collar of the coatee, which itself is very stiff and hot, but this is not to be permitted, as the following order will show:—

District Order.—July 13.—Although the use of the stock in this army has been discontinued during the hot weather, no authority has ever been given for soldiers dressed in uniform to turn down their collars, or to wear their coats or jackets wholly or partly opened, and the Lieut.-General Accordingly desires that that slovenly practice may be prohibited for the future in this division.—By order, W. SULLIVAN, A. A. G.

I send you these orders and trust you will publish them.

P.S. Sunday, July 16.—The stocks again ordered to be worn, and several men had to fall out from the ranks faint, and to go to hospital.—

Valley of Devna.

THE WAR.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Camp, Devna, July 10th, 1854.

I send you a brief account of the present position of the leading division of the British forces in Turkey.

The plain of Devna, where the Light Division under General Brownе advanced on June 30th, and where the brigade of cavalry had been previously encamped, is an extensive valley, nearly triangular in form, its greatest length being in a direction from north to south. The southern end forms the base of the triangle, and is lowest in level. It is here, at the south-eastern angle, that the lake, which reaches all the way from Varna, ends; and for a wide distance beyond, even at this dry season, the ground is an impassable marsh. This swamp encloses an area whose circumference is about eight or ten miles, but in the rainy season it must occupy a much greater space. This is rendered evident, not only by the character of the soil, but also by the absence of any dwelling near this part of the plain, while, at the other end, there are numerous mills and houses.

At the base of a hill at the northern extremity of the valley a number of springs may be seen bubbling up, and the water thence derived is enclosed and banked up to a certain level, so as to form a reservoir. From this source, assisted by additions from various other springs in its course, arises a small stream, which passes along the whole length of the plain, and is finally lost in the marsh before mentioned. As this stream winds along, in consequence of there being a considerable fall from the north to the lake end of the valley, it acquires a certain amount of force, and this is taken advantage of for the purpose of turning the machinery of a number of flour-mills. No less than twenty-two of those mills are at present in active operation. I have no recollection of ever having seen so many wheels; each mill has two large water-wheels at work, wholly turned by springs, rising close to the mills themselves; for although the mountains which form the boundaries of the plain of Devna are broken into deep ravines and gullies, there is no instance of a stream or rivulet to be met with on their sides, nor any surface of water whatever. The springs rise wholly in the valley. The supply of water, the inhabitants say, never fails, and this is readily explained by the extensive mountain area, which, without any loss from evaporation, is thus drained. From this water is derived the supply by the troops for drinking and cooking purposes, and when obtained near the springs it is excellent in quality.

The mountains enclosing the valley of Devna, or Dwenos, as some maps have it, rise to about eight or nine hundred feet in height. They slope towards the plain on the south with an abrupt declivity; on the east and west, with a gradual inclination. Towards the north they are less elevated, and more broken. From the higher summits the fortifications of Varna and the vessels in the bay are readily seen on a clear day. They are covered with a thick scrub, especially towards their tops, but no large trees are seen. A few fields of rye and barley in the valley, and a few vineyards on the mountain sides,—the vine being cultivated in the same fashion as in Germany,—are the only cultivated spots seen. At the upper end of the valley are a few acres of vegetables; they chiefly consist of onions, but there are also beans, cabbages, cucumbers, egg-plants, vegetable marrows, &c., though in a very limited quantity. The onion appears to be the staple vegetable of the country; no potatoes are grown.

At a high elevation on the mountain side, and at the farthest end from the lake, is the village of Devna. The inhabitants are all Christian Bulgarians, and seem an inoffensive, industrious race. Weaving forms a constant occupation amongst the women while the men are away with their cattle or in the fields; and much more order and cleanliness is observed in the houses than in those of the Turkish villages. This appears to be the case generally amongst the Christian inhabitants in Bulgaria. At Devna the inhabitants want that healthy aspect that may be seen in other villages at a few miles' distance, which I am inclined to attribute to the generally unhealthy character of that from the neighborhood of the lake, low and marsh. Four main roads pass from the plain. The road by the side of the lake to Varna, and its continuation in the opposite direction to Shumla, are two of those roads. Another road from Varna opens into the plain opposite to the village of Devna, crosses the stream by a small but substantial stone bridge, and, near the village itself, passes out of the plain to go to Silistria and Rustchuk.

The cavalry and the horse artillery are on one side—the eastern—of the stream before described; the two brigades of the Light Division, with the battalion of the Rifle Brigade attached, and a battery of foot artillery on the opposite side. The cavalry are encamped low down on the plain, but near to its upper end—a convenient arrangement as regards watering the horses; while the infantry are on a natural platform on the mountain side, at an elevation of 150 or 200 feet above the stream. The camp of the latter extends much nearer to the margin of the lake. I doubt if any medical officer was consulted in the selection of this site; it is certainly nearer to the swamp than is desirable. Fortunately the prevailing wind has been from the north and north-west, so that the influence of any malaria has hitherto been by this means escaped from. By a very little engineering, cutting a communication between the lower end of the lake and the bay of Varna, from which it is separated only by a very narrow belt of land, and by slightly embanking part of the Devna stream, the marsh might be drained, and the whole plain rendered healthy and fertile.

Sickness at Aladyn.

they could have succeeded in getting it issued to them at Varna, and had been allowed to bring it on at their own expense. In some degree the absence of other supplies would have thus been counterbalanced, and the men furnished as well by the porter itself as by not spending their surplus pay in the trash dignified by the name of wine.

It has given general satisfaction to hear that the brigade of hospital conveyance carts is on its way; it will supply many wants. Pray that it may not be thought too great an innovation on pantomilar customs. I regret that two divisions only are to be supplied; for, should there be an action, it is not unlikely that the carts and waggons would be more distributed than has been contemplated, and the value and efficiency of the brigade therefore not fairly tested. At present there is not a single conveyance for the sick here; those ordered to the general hospital at Varna have to be conveyed by the rotten commissariat bullock-carts—machines of the most primitive and cumbrous description. On the occasion of a fractured tibia and fibula at Aladyn, the patient had to be carried on a stretcher, and nine miles over a bad road on a succeless night would have not been exactly what Mr. Fox would have recommended in such a case. However, if a similar accident were to occur to-morrow, no choice would be left but to adopt the same plan of carrying the unfortunate soldier to Varna. It would be much better than conveyance by a bullock-cart.

There have been two or three additions to the strength of the division by childbirth. It is strange how well the women of the different corps have borne up against all kinds of exposure. Well for them it is that they have had good health. Those regimental which made arrangements for not permitting any women to accompany them not only acted wisely and with forethought, but, as experience proves, most kindly to the women themselves.

THE WAR.

Health of our Army at Aladyn.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Camp near Aladyn.

Since I last wrote we have changed our encampment, being obliged to do so on account of sickness. We have marched about four miles from Aladyn, still about ten miles from Varna, which we can now see, and are enabled to enjoy the sea breeze, as there is no hill to intercept it. I trust this will be an advantage; we are now situated on a small plain on the top of a hill, having woods on the slopes on the south side, though not so much as at Aladyn, neither is the country so pretty, but I hope it is more healthy. The reason of our sudden change was the amount of sick in the hospitals, each having a great number of cases of diarrhœa, and within the last week shelters has broken out, and carried several men off in a few hours. I think about six cases have occurred, four of them of the last draft that came out, men who had only arrived a few days. The Guards have left a good many sick at Aladyn, who will come on when able, most of them not very urgent cases, though unable to stand the jolting of the slow ox-drawn waggons over those rocky roads. The Highlanders seem to suffer by far the least, have the fewest men here in hospital, and I have not heard of any deaths, though I believe they live hard and drink a good deal of the country wine, which is very bad; perhaps their habits from their enclosure, may preserve them to a certain degree. I have no doubt the Highlanders are a more hardy race, and accustomed to greater work and fatigue; they all still remain at Aladyn. The cases of cholera occurred nearly together, and after two deaths the Duke determined to move if any more died. Tuesday evening, late, orders came, and on Wednesday morning, at nine, we marched. I believe this fearful scourge has broken out in the fleet, and many deaths have occurred.

For the next two months we expect a good deal of sickness, though, strange to say, as yet, except amongst the Highlanders, no cases of intermittent fever have occurred. They have had a few cases, I hear,—all have had cases, of slight fever; but there have only been, as far as I can learn, three or four of a typhoid nature amongst the Heavy Division, none as yet fatal; very likely the fevers are to come.

The temperature in the tent here now is 96°, but we have a nice breeze now and then. Both the other divisions are suffering greatly—much more than this division; they are losing fifteen a day. One day the Light Division lost sixteen; and [illegible] day before yesterday, the 2nd, as I was told by one of our officers who was over there yesterday, but nineteen. I cannot say how true it is, as I am unable to ride over there now on account of duty. One of the regiments has lost its quartermaster, but as yet none of the officers.

The French are still worse off. Report says they have lost an immense number, and are now much broken down both in health and spirits. They who came out in such excitement to enter the field and fight immediately, now they find that very likely it will not be so this year, and that fatal disease is amongst them, are greatly disheartened. Our foes are in very much better spirits than can be imagined; and a good brush with the Russians would show that John Bull can stand a great deal, and after all be victorious. Our French allies would soon be all right if they had the same treat by our sides, and would soon discomfit the foe. The French general is against going to the Crimea. I expect we shall do nothing this year, except perhaps have a fight for winter quarters; and as soon as possible in the spring, and all in good health, I hope gain additional laurels. All seem to bear this with great patience, and as soldiers, from officers to men. Of course, a grumble is heard occasionally, but rarely; and, as you may expect, we are not in a land flowing with milk and honey. Not a BISCUIT, even better we cannot get, except very sour, and a very little of that.

I think I have told you all, and must draw to a close, so as to catch the post.

P.S. Since I have written, the Highlanders have come up, and bring bad news from Aladyn; some of the sick left behind and the attendants are suffering from cholera, and some, it is feared, are sinking.

Cholera amongst the Troops at Devna.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

On Saturday night, cases of a very fatal character appeared amongst the regiments of the Light Division encamped at Devna. During the afternoon of the same day the wind, which had been blowing from the north and north west, veered round to the south-east, so as to blow directly over from the Devna swamp upon the camp. Towards night the breeze dropped, and was followed by a still, oppressive atmosphere, at the same time that there was considerable electric disturbance around, as evidenced by frequent flashes of sheet-lightening. No thunder or rain accompanied this, and clouds were few and distant. Although the camp had occupied the same ground since June the 30th, and the close congregation of so many horses and men in a limited space must be of course taken into consideration, and though some were inclined to attribute the outbreak to imprudence on the part of the men in eating unripe fruit, there are many reasons to suppose that the change in the direction of the wind, and the consequent importation of malaria from the marsh, were the first and direct causes. The regiments of the cavalry encamped on the east side of the plain were out of the line of direction of wind, being protected by the high hills in their rear; while the regiments of the line on the west aspect of the plain, and nearest to the swamp, being exposed to its influence, alone suffered. No cases occurred amongst the cavalry. Of the seven regiments of the Light Division, two only altogether escaped, the 77th and Rifle Brigade, and these were encamped most remote of the whole line from the swamp. Beyond these again, nearer to the village of Devna, was a battery of Horse Artillery, and no cases occurred amongst the men of this corps.

At the recommendation of the medical officers, the Light Division quitted Devna early on Monday morning, and marched to Monastir, about five miles' distance on the road toward Parawdi. One brigade is now occupying a rising ground on one side of a deep dell; the other brigade has encamped at a short distance beyond, and on the opposite side. A small village is placed in the hollow between the two brigades. This appears at first sight to be a very healthy position. The land around is generally cultivated; there seems to be abundance of good water and wood, and no traces of any marsh are visible.

Between the occurrence of the first case of cholera, on Saturday night, and the time of the division quitting Devna, early on Monday morning, twenty-one deaths occurred in the five regiments attacked. Several cases from each regiment were left behind, some of which would beyond all doubt prove fatal.

It has been remarked, that in this division, and in this division only, a peculiar arrangement of the tents has been enforced, which by many has been supposed to be anything but salubrious. They are pitched in double rows, one company's tents being back to back with the next company's tents. The evil of this is, that a thorough ventilation of the air is prevented between the tents, while it requires the most constant attention to prevent the accumulation of bones, dung, and other noxious matters, amongst the cords, and in the narrow passage between the two rows. It must be remembered, that in every two tents thus placed so closely together, twenty-eight, and sometimes thirty, men have to sleep. In the division lying next to the Light Division, (General Evans's,) the advantage of single lines of tents, with a clear wide space between them, in a sanitary point of view, is at once apparent. On the first arrival of the Light Division at Devna, the tents of one of the brigades were pitched in single rows; but to the no little annoyance of the men, fatigued by their march from Aladyn, an order was given for them to be struck again, and re-pitched in a double arrangement. What military advantages are obtained by this plan of encampment, I know not, in a medical point of view, it is certainly objectionable. Another practice considered objectionable has been the general construction, by men and officers, of temporary bowers, to escape from the oppressive heat of the tents during the daytime. The interruption to the circulation of air, the decaying leaves, and the escape from sight of many objectionable matters which may be concealed amongst them, have been the alleged objections to these use. They have been found a very advantageous addition to the crowded hospital marquees in the field, due attention being paid to their cleanliness. The shade afforded by them, at the same time that the air was able to pass freely through the branches of which they were made, were obviously useful, especially to convalescents; while the relief to the marquee thus obtained was manifestly beneficial to the more active cases under treatment.

It is notoriously difficult to persuade persons who have not paid much attention to the subject of sanitary laws that, in certain conditions of the atmosphere—the choleraic for example—attention to minutest details is often of most serious importance. Unless a noxious effluvium forces attention by its effect on some of the senses, the existence of the evil is not credited by such persons. The necessity for dilution of a poison by abundance of free, pure air, where no such poison is obvious to

Move to Devna.

Neg of Stocks in Bulgaria. Valley of Devna. Sickness at Aladyn. Move to Devna

The Garrotte in the English Army.

—A "Soldier of the Light Division" has addressed us the following from the camp near Devna, dated July 14 :—

Judging from the reports in the newspapers the press and the people of England appear to be under the impression that the use of the stock has been given up. Such is not the case in this division of the army, whatever it may be in others. Last Sunday all the troops were ordered to wear their stocks at church parade, and only those who had them on know the sense of oppression and suffocation they produced in the burning heat of the sun, close together as we were, trying to listen to the remarks of the minister. General officers and others do not wear the stock; and will not believe either the men or the doctors when they speak against them. The press alone can rid us of this pitiful collar. I send you copies of the orders which the general of this division has published, and which will show how far the stock has been abandoned. We have to keep them in our knapsacks, and show them at all his inspections.

"District Orders.—Camp, Varna, June 15.—By command of the Commander of the Forces the non-commissioned officers and men are henceforth to be permitted to march without their stocks, but it is to be understood that no handkerchief nor any other substitute is to be allowed for the stock, and that if it is not worn the neck is to be left bare.—By command.

W. Sullivan, A. A. G.

After this order the soldiers turned down the collar of the coatee, which itself is very stiff and hot, but this is not to be permitted, as the following order will show :—

District Order.—July 13.—Although the use of the stock in this army has been discontinued during the hot weather, no authority has ever been given for soldiers dressed in uniform to turn down their collars, or to wear their coats or jackets wholly or partly opened, and the Lieut.-General Commanding desires that that slovenly practice may be prohibited for the future in this division.—By order.

W. Sullivan, A. A. G.

I send you these orders and trust you will publish them.

P.S. Sunday, July 16.—The stocks again ordered to be worn, and several men had to fall out from the ranks faint, and to go to hospital.—

THE WAR.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Camp, Devna, July 16th, 1854.

I send you a brief account of the present position of the leading division of the British forces in Turkey.

The plain of Devna, where the Light Division under General Brown advanced on June 30th, and where the brigade of cavalry had been previously encamped, is an extensive valley, nearly triangular in form, its greatest length being in a direction from north to south. The southern end forms the base of the triangle, and is lowest in level. It is here, at the south-eastern angle, that the lake, which reaches all the way from Varna, ends; and for a wide distance beyond, even at this dry season, the ground is an impassible marsh. This swampy enclosure an area whose circumference is about eight or ten miles. The camp, which extends from the south-eastern angle to the north-western, is about eight miles in length, and from two to three in breadth. The ground is undulating, and in many parts rises into hills of considerable height. The camp is pitched on the slopes of these hills, and on the plain at their base. The cavalry are encamped on the north-eastern side of the plain, and the infantry brigades on the north-western side, the 7th and Rifle Brigade, and three companies of the Royal Artillery, being on the hills in their rear, while the regiments of the line are on the plain. The 1st Brigade, consisting of the 19th, 33rd, and 77th regiments, is encamped on the north-western side of the plain, and the 2nd Brigade, consisting of the 20th, 28th, and 88th regiments, on the south-western side. The 3rd Brigade, consisting of the 7th and Rifle Brigade, and three companies of the Royal Artillery, is encamped on the hills in the rear of the 1st Brigade, and the 4th Brigade, consisting of the 23rd, 30th, and 55th regiments, is encamped on the hills in the rear of the 2nd Brigade. The cavalry brigade, consisting of the 4th Dragoon Guards, 8th Hussars, and 11th Hussars, is encamped on the north-eastern side of the plain, and the 5th Dragoon Guards, 13th Light Dragoons, and 17th Lancers, are encamped on the north-western side of the plain, and nearest to the swamp, being exposed to its influences, alone suffered. No cases occurred amongst the cavalry. Of the seven regiments of the Light Division, two only altogether escaped, the 77th and Rifle Brigade, and these were encamped most remote of the whole line from the swamp. Beyond them again, nearer to the village of Devna, was a battery of Horse Artillery, and no cases occurred amongst the men of this corps.

At the recommendation of the medical officers, the Light Division quitted Devna early on Monday morning, and marched to Monastur, about five miles' distance on the road toward Pavavadi. One brigade is now occupying a rising ground on one side of a deep dell; the other brigade has encamped at a short distance beyond, and on the opposite side. A small village is placed in the hollow between the two brigades. This appears at first sight to be a very healthy position. The land around is generally cultivated; there seems to be abundance of good water and wood, and no traces of any marsh are visible.

Between the occurrence of the first case of cholera, on Saturday night, and the time of the division quitting Devna, early on Monday morning, twenty-one deaths occurred in the five regiments attacked. Several cases from each regiment were left behind, some of which would beyond all doubt prove fatal.

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It has given general satisfaction to hear that the brigade of hospital conveyance carts is on its way; it will supply many wants. Pray that it may not be thought too great an innovation on peninsular customs. I regret that two divisions only are to be supplied; for, should there be an action, it is not unlikely that the carts and waggons would be more disturbed than has been contemplated, and the value and efficiency of the brigade therefore not fairly tested. At present there is not a single conveyance for the sick here; those ordered to the general hospital at Varna have to be carried by the return commissariat bullock carts—machines of the most primitive and cumbrous description. On the occasion of a fractured tibia and fibula at Aladyn, the patient had to be carried on a stretcher, and nine miles over a bad road on a moonless night would have been a terrible ordeal. We, I think, should have recommended an accident were to occur to adopt the same plan at Varna. It would be back-cart.

Even to the strength of age how well the women against all kinds of exposures, most kindly to

R.

AT ALADYN.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Camp, near Aladyn.

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I think I have told you all, and must draw to a close, so as to catch the post.

P.S. Since I have written, the Highlanders have come up, and being bad news from Aladyn; some of the sick left behind and the attendants are suffering from cholera, and some, it is feared, are sinking.

Cholera amongst the Troops at Devna.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

On Saturday night, cases of a very fatal character appeared amongst the regiments of the Light Division encamped at Devna. During the afternoon of the same day the wind, which had been blowing from the north and north west, veered round to the south-east, so as to blow directly over from the Devna swamp upon the camp. Towards night the breeze stopped, and was followed by a still, oppressive atmosphere, at the same time that there was considerable electric disturbance around, as evidenced by frequent flashes of sheet-lightning. No thunder or rain accompanied this, and clouds were few and distant. Although the camp had occupied the same ground since June the 30th, and the close congregation of so many horses and men in a limited space must be of course taken into consideration, and though some were inclined to attribute the outbreak to imprudence on the part of the men in eating unripe fruit, there are many reasons to suppose that the change in the direction of the wind, and the concurrent importation of malaria from the marsh, were the first and direct causes. The regiments of the cavalry encamped on the east side of the plain were out of the line of direction of wind, being protected by the high hills in their rear; while the regiments of the line on

Health of Troops at Devna.

Light Div. leaves Devna for Monastir.

sight or smell, cannot be perceived; neither can be duly understood the influences exerted at such a season by crowding of persons, by impediments to the normal action of the respiratory and other systems of the animal economy from peculiarities of dress, by certain qualities of diet, and other really important agencies. These difficulties are experienced in military as in civil life, and medical officers are not unfrequently neglected or considered over officious in consequence. It is to be hoped the day may come when a general knowledge of sanitary laws will form part of the education of every commander to whom may be entrusted the lives, comfort, and management of bodies of men, for so the co-operation of the military and medical officers will be rendered much more serviceable and efficient.

July 28th.—A marked improvement in health and spirits has taken place since the arrival of the troops at this encampment. A few isolated cases of cholera have occurred, but in the majority of instances the seeds of the disease appear to have been imbibed before leaving Devna. A large proportion of the cases which were left behind at Devna, too ill to be removed with the troops, have since proved fatal; the total number of deaths in the division being now one officer and nearly fifty men. Two women have died. Cases of cholera have also occurred amongst the troops at Aboljva and Varna. From the crowded and usually neglected state of this latter town, from the nearness of the lake with its adjoining swamp, an epidemic is not unlikely to exert considerable influence there. By timely removal of the troops to more healthy localities, by improved diet, and constant attention to sanitary arrangements, we trust to be spared much mortality should the disease continue amongst us. General Sir de Lacy Evans's division, whose camp has been most removed by its lofty and sheltered position from the influence of the Devna lake and marshes, and in all respects most favourably situated, has continued by far the most healthy of the British force in Turkey.

The following general order has been issued by Lord Raglan:—

"Bowel complaints being prevalent, as is usual at this season of the year, and the officers of the medical department being of opinion that some improvement of the ration might be beneficial, the Commander of the Forces has been pleased to authorise, as a temporary measure, that two ounces of rice or Scotch barley be issued daily to each man, without addition to the stoppage, upon the distinct understanding that the allowance shall cease at the end of September, or whenever it may be considered no longer necessary."

In consequence of the increase in the number of cases of fever and bowel complaints in the Light Division of the British force in Turkey, an order has been issued to shift the camp from Devna. Several fatal cases of cholera have occurred.

THE LIGHT DIVISION.

The following letter is from an officer of the light division of the British army in Turkey:

Monastir, two miles from Prerodi, July 27.

We have received no letters from home by the last two mails, but, as there is now a regular postal establishment for the army, I trust we shall get our letters regularly, without any agency.

We know nothing yet of our destination. The great gathering of transports at Varna and Kavarna implies we are to be taken somewhere, but I doubt if any one but the three or four commanders-in-chief know where. Odessa, Anapa, Sebastopol, Balsum, are all spoken of. People at home do not seem to comprehend all the difficulties and dangers connected with an attack on Sebastopol; at any rate, I am inclined to doubt its being attempted until we are more fully prepared.

We had suddenly to decamp from Devna on account of an outbreak of cholera. I am happy to say the change has proved beneficial. The unhealthiness of the Devna plain, from the large lake and swamp there, is believed to have been the great cause of the outbreak; while the men, previously weakened by indifferent diet, the heat of the climate, noxious exhalations in camp, from too long a stay in one spot, and other circumstances, were thus rendered very susceptible to its influence. The whole neighbourhood of the lake, which extends from Varna to Devna, proved very fatal to the Russians when they were here. If the supplies sent out from England had been more efficiently distributed, we should have been in better trim than we are to meet any epidemic. Judging from the accounts we have of the march of the French from Gallipoli to Adrianople, their commissariat contrived to be always a day in advance of the army, and arrangements were made so that abundant supplies were procurable by the troops at the end of their march. Though we have come so short a distance, and at such long intervals, our commissariat always arrives after us, so defective and ill-arranged are their means of transport. I was thinking to-day of a conversation I had with ——, a few days before I left England, comparing protestant clergymen with catholic priests. In a marquee near to my tent is Mr. ——, the catholic priest, a well-informed and well-selected man, most indefatigable and attentive. There were two deaths in hospital to-day, both protestants. The clergyman never came near them. I have never seen him visit the sick yet; and the hospital sergeant, who is always at the hospital, says he has not been there but once since we landed at Varna. On the other hand, no catholic has died in hospital without the priest being with him for some time before his death. He is a constant visitor of the sick there, and he is always trying to find out whose sickness is. The fact is, our clergymen are so superior in position, education, habits of life, and feeling, that they have not the same sympathy with the soldiers that the catholic priests seem to have. This is to be regretted, for the influence of our church is much lessened by it among the men. I have witnessed the same fact in every station I have yet been in, and now find it as true as ever in camp life.

Light Div.n at Monastir.

Want of Transport, Monastir.

Monastir, Aug. 7th, 1854.

Cholera notwithstanding has continued amongst the troops of the Light Division, but the cases have assumed more of a sporadic type, and, generally speaking, have exhibited a milder and more manageable character. In the outbreak which occurred at Devna, and in those cases in which the cholera poison may be supposed to have been imbibed there, all the symptoms were packed in their most virulent form—copious, incessant rice-water vomiting and evacuations, suppression of all secretory action, prostration, turgidity of surface, speedy death, and muscular irritability continuing for some time after all vital functions had ceased. It would be idle to enumerate the various remedies resorted to, for in almost all these cases was the diarrhœa que rouhed at all; symptoms only were reached, and in most instances these were alleviated but slightly before the last and fatal stage set in. Neither in these instances, although disorders of the bowels had been prevailing for some time previous throughout the whole division, would there appear to have been traced any marked premonitory stage. In a few cases slight acts of indigestion were observed which seemed, like a spark to gunpowder, suddenly to ignite the latent disease into full action. As to the cases which have latterly occurred, in some the symptoms before named have been all present, but less violent in character and slower in progress; in others, some of these have been wanting altogether. The chief difficulty in many of these has been in treating the secondary fever, or raising the patient from the extreme debility consequent on the attack. It is in this stage more particularly that in the field hospital the absence in full of many of those conveniences which are always to be found in civil hospitals, and which cannot be obtained here amongst a community so little civilized, and whose habits are so much at variance with those which prevail in other parts of Europe.

The prevalence of diarrhœa, and all the train of gastro-enteritic irritation and dyspeptic symptoms, continues unchecked. Moreover, there is an amount of general debility far beyond what can be accounted for simply by temperature and climate, for it exceeds what is usually experienced after a much longer period passed in a tropical climate where the benefit of cool evenings and nights is not enjoyed. It is an important question how much influence the diet of the troops may have exerted in producing this result. The bread is dark coloured and heavy. The corn fields abound with weeds of all descriptions, and no care is taken to separate the seeds of these from the corn preparatory to grinding. One of the contractors said that he could produce flour as fine as English or American flour, but a much higher price must be paid for it, for much more labour would be required in preparing it. From its appearance, the bread would seem to have a considerable proportion of rye-flour in it; but it is stated that it is wholly made from the wheat known as the bearded wheat, which is universally grown in this part of Bulgaria. The beef, which for a long time past has been the chief diet of the troops, seems universally condemned. It is coarse and tough; in short, the ox, being essentially a beast of draught and burden, is not proper for food. There is the principal portion of a Turkish regiment of cavalry, 400 strong, (the remainder being employed with our cavalry brigade at Yeni Bazaar,) attached to this division. They are now encamped lower on the plain than the line regiments, near to the royal horse artillery. They have not had a case of cholera in the regiment. Their chief meat, they say, is mutton; they avoid beef as much as possible. The men are a fine, hardy set of fellows; none of them really greenhorns in size; so that, glancing from them to their horses, it becomes a matter of surprise how so small a servant can carry so heavy a master, with his heavy lance and accoutrements. These soldiers would form an excellent example for argument in an oration by a temperance advocate.

To compensate for the deficiency in nutriment of the beef, the commander of the forces has ordered, by a general order of the 1st instant, that the ration of meat should be increased from one pound to one pound and a half during the present unhealthy season. By a previous order (July the 19th) a daily issue to each man of two ounces of rice or Scotch barley was authorized; so that if sufficient vessels for cooking are provided, the soldier ought now to have a substantial and nutritious soup. On the 31st of July, by another general order, half a gill of spirits was directed to be issued by the commissariat department for each non-commissioned officer and soldier, and the coffee lately ordered for the troops was directed to be used so as to produce a cup in the morning before going out on any duties, and another in the evening before going to rest. These arrangements, it is hoped, will produce much benefit.

The village of Monastire, near which this division is encamped, was formerly inhabited by Bulgarians of the Greek church, and their stone crosses still remain amongst the graves of the neighbouring cemetery. It is said that they were ejected without any compensation on its occupancy by the Turks. It consists of a collection of houses little better than mud-huts, with thatched roofs, placed without any regularity, and each with its surrounding vegetable garden or orchard enclosed by a high fence. No fewer-beds are visible, nor any trace of refinement or industry. In the lanes between the houses are large dung heaps, the apparent accumulation of years; weeds grow on every side, and the whole place is stamped with the characters of indolence and neglect. One only redeeming point, and that which binds us to its neighbourhood, is its fountains. Of these there are several; small streams of water carefully carried through small stone conduits, from the ends of which the water flows constantly into a succession of stone troughs, placed at such a height that all animals, from the sheep or goat to the horse, can drink freely from them, or rather could drink before our arrival brought such a crowd of applicants to the spring. It is the difficulty of finding water which had prevented our camp from being again shifted before this date, to try the effect of a further move in ridding us of the disease which is amongst us. We are not yet out of the influence of the Devna plain. The face of the mountain bounding the lakes and marsh on the south looks down upon us; for the ridge of sloping land which separates us is much less elevated. Not unfrequently in the early morning the dense white vapour which rises from the lake forms a fleecy cloud above this intervening ridge, and obscures all, except just the summit, of the mountain beyond. The sea breeze rises, sweeps up the valley from Varna, and with the aid of the powerful heat of the rising sun the vapour is soon dispersed. The prevailing direction of the wind since arriving in this encampment has been from the south and south-east, just that which would drive any miasma that might float upwards from the marshes into a stratum of air higher than the intervening hills, directly upon us.

One great improvement in the present condition of the camp is the separation which has taken place in the encampments of the different regiments, and the consequent more free circulation of air. When the disease broke out at Devna, the two brigades of the Light Division, with the battalion of Rifle Brigade attached, were encamped closely together. The frontage of the whole camp for these seven regiments was, in all, about 839 yards; 144 paces, or about 120 yards, being allowed for each regiment; the depth, on the average, was about 140 yards; so that, in a space of 840 by 140 yards, were dwelling upwards of 6000 men, and about 500 horses. The regiments of the two brigades are now separated as widely apart as is consistent with convenience for obtaining water and rations, and more space is allotted between the several tents of each regiment.

Hospital huts have been issued to a considerable number of the men, and it is expected that a further supply will shortly be received, so as to enable every man in the division to wear one. The great difference in the temperature before and after sunset renders this protection to the loins a most desirable acquisition. Medicines and medical stores have not been proportionate to the demand, notwithstanding every exertion on the part of the medical officers. It is understood that the difficulty of finding available transport has been the chief cause of the deficiency in this respect. The purveyors complain of want of clerks and assistants, to enable them to comply with the requisitions constantly made on their stores—a complaint constantly heard, too, and with apparent reason, amongst the officers of the commissariat department. The ambulance corps still continue at Varna; and in respect to sick or wounded, should transport be required for them, we should be as badly off in this division as we have ever been. The slow, ill-made, cumbrous bullock-waggon of the country would be our only resource in such an emergency.

The order from England for wearing the moustache was issued to the troops at Monastire this day, (August 7th.) It has been already, for sometime past, adopted in other divisions.

—It is promised, with the sanction of the generals commanding them. That part of the order which enjoins the under lip, chin, and upper part of the throat to be shorn, as well as a fixed space on each side of the angle of the mouth, will prevent a fair test of the advantages which were anticipated, in a medical point of view, from the growth of the hair in this situation, whether as a respirator defending the air passing to the lungs, or as an external protection under all circumstances of exposure to the upper part of the throat. In consequence of the number of men and officers who have suffered here from sore lips and chins, it is reported that the commander of the forces will, for the present, dispense with the use of the razor altogether. This will in many ways be a comfort and advantage to the soldier. Cleanliness may be preserved without razors, and one pair of scissors will cut the beards of a whole squad into a becoming shape without much expense of time or labour. Exposed as the British soldier constantly is, by his duties, to night air,—changing from the heated guard-house to the slow movement along his allotted beat,—and to all vicissitudes of climate, from the sun of the tropics to the extreme cold of Canada, not forgetting the damp fogs of England,—few can doubt that the growth of hair on the lower part of the face and upper part of the throat would be a valuable protection. But whether this growth can be permitted without detracting from that propriety of appearance and uniformity which the military eye requires—some persons are said to have a military eye *par excellence*, just as others have "an eye for a horse," or "an eye for a picture"—is a matter which must be settled elsewhere.

The necessary preparations for the embarcation of the troops is described as going on with great rapidity in the transports and fleet. Yesterday a rumour went through the camp that cholera had broken out in some of the ships, but could not be traced to any reliable source. It is believed to be making considerable havoc in the French camps, and the deaths at Varna from the same cause are said to be numerous.

Assistant-Surgeon E. Alfred Jenkin, Senior Assistant in the 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers, has died from an attack of the prevailing disease. He was one of the medical officers left behind at Devna, in charge of the sick who were unable to be moved at the time the Light Division quitted that encampment for Monastire. The Hospital Sergeant and the Hospital Orderlies of the 23rd, or Duke of Wellington's Regiment, who were also left behind to attend upon the sick at Devna, have since died from cholera.

Sickness at Monastir. Fire at Varna.

THE CAMP AT MONASTIR.

The following letter is from an officer of the Light Division of the army in Turkey:

MONASTIR, Aug. 13, 1854.

I am sorry to inform you that the allied army is in a very sad plight, and it appears to be the general opinion that if it be not speedily removed from the abominable locality in which it unfortunately has been planted, it will become unfit for service; indeed, rumour says that General Airey, now commanding this division in the absence of General Brown, has reported it as, but I cannot vouch for the truth of the report. One proof among others that I might give, that the situation of the several encampments has caused the general sickness, is, that the Brigade of Light Cavalry has wholly escaped the cholera, they are said not to have had a single case. They are about eight miles from here on the way to Skamla, and therefore out of reach of the pernicious influence of the lakes. Nearly every officer is suffering from some disorder of the bowels or other, diarrhœa being the prevailing malady, and those who are not actually on the sick list are complaining of great weakness and lassitude. I have had two attacks of colic, diarrhœa, &c.; but, having attended to it in time, without any serious result beyond the great debility which seems to follow even an ordinary attack of diarrhœa at the present season. The soldiers generally are suffering from the same disorders, and of course to a greater extent than the officers, who have the means of obtaining many comforts out of their reach, as that the accommodation afforded by the hospital marquees is quite insufficient. A second hospital marquee was directed in general orders to be issued to each regiment when required, but, like many other regulations made on particular departments, it has not as yet been complied with. The deficiency has been made up in the regiments by erecting temporary sheds for the sick, by using some of the companies' hill tents, by sending many of the men who ought to be in hospital to their own tents, and by such other means as the commanding officers and surgeons could devise. The marquee, however, is not only the tent best adapted for the sick on account of its size and height, but also because it is the only one constructed with double canvas, by means of which a protection is obtained against the heat of the sun by day, and the cold air by night. What is still more unfortunate is the present emergency, I hear all the medical officers complain that they cannot get the necessary medicines in anything like a sufficient quantity, an evil which appears attributable to the very limited means of conveyance (two arabas for the whole division) granted for the medicines and medical stores which were to be held in reserve by the medical staff. As the regulation stock in hand of each regiment consisted of only two small panniers full, this depot soon disappeared, and the length of time which elapses between a demand on the stores at Varna and the arrival of the things required, if the demand be granted, can only be understood by those who have personally witnessed the machinery of this army and its tortoise-like movements in all departments. People in England will scarcely believe this statement, for it is hardly credible that here, at less than 25 miles distance from the seaport of Varna, the head quarters of the army, three weeks after an outbreak of an epidemic, there should be wanting any medicine or appliance necessary for the treatment of the disease. But the correctness of the statement is easily ascertained by reference to those most interested in the subject.

The number of deaths in the Light Division are now reported over 100 men and officers, and one regiment has nearly 200 on the sick list. Poor Capt. Duke, of the 77th Regiment, an active officer formerly adjutant of the regiment, died yesterday. This is the second officer of this regiment who has fallen a victim to the prevailing epidemic. The system of frequently changing the encamping ground has been adopted, and every one agrees that the progress of the cholera, and probably its severity in most of the cases which have lately occurred, has been materially checked by this means. The 63rd and 7th Regiments are now encamped near each other on the sides of a long sloping hill in a northerly direction from the village of Monastir. The Rifle Brigade, 33rd and 19th Regiments, and small arms ammunition Brigade of Royal Artillery, occupy an elevated position on another mountain spur, being separated from the former by the fork of the deep and broad ravine, at the termination of which the village itself is placed. The 88th and 77th Regiments have moved about three miles off, not far from Paravadi. Colonel Elliott, of the 79th—Highlanders, is dead; he was only married six weeks before he came out. Scores as our losses have been, those of our allies have been much greater I am told: so fearful, indeed, that they have been compelled to bury their dead in trenches without ceremony.

But to change this sad subject. The view from the heights above Monastir is very extensive. On one side the Balkans, range after range, are stretched out before the eye, a cultivated plain of a few miles in circumference alone intervening; on the other hand, the prospect stretches all the way to Varna, and includes some miles of the Black Sea beyond. The white wall of fortification around the town, and the tall masts of the larger ships in the bay, are readily discerned by the naked eye on a clear day, and with the assistance of an ordinary telescope each vessel, and all the more prominent buildings in the town can be distinguished. The effect of the great fire on the night of the 10th from this distance was very imposing—not the less so from the uncertainty as to its origin, precise situation, and extent. The flames were seen to extend at both ends of the part burning, and from its extreme vividness and its long duration there could be no doubt that the fire was constantly receiving fresh fuel, by seizing more buildings in its grasp. On the night of the 11th it was seen still to be burning; during the day a column of white smoke or vapour was alone discernible. When the fire was first noticed it was supposed to be one of the ships in the harbour, for the masts of a vessel which was lying in the direction of the flames were made very visible; and, as the fire was manifestly beyond control, an explosion was looked for. The evening was dark as the flames broke forth, but not long after words the moon, nearly at its full, rose from behind a heavy bank of clouds, tapping the line of mountain which forms the Devna Lake, and then, with the assistance of our glasses, the true situation of the fire became obvious. Then came the thousand speculations—were our stores safe?—a fond the Russian Emperor succeeded by some of his emissaries in setting fire to them?—should a fire take place at this dry, hot season, in any part of the narrow-streeted town of Varna, with its wood shops and houses, without the whole being destroyed?—were the ammunition stores inside the town?—and other such questions, which I need not give you the solutions of, as you will receive them in more full detail from Varna itself. The opening of our campaign has been certainly most unfortunate. The loss of the Tiger—the burning of the Europe—the Emperor's navies sunk in their harbours—the expeditionary army well-nigh penetrate from disease—and worst a great part of its very support destroyed—are sad subjects to look of. Now comes the question, how long can we remain in this part of Bulgaria? In 1828 Varna was entered by the Russians about the 10th of October, but shortly afterwards they had to abandon their prize, and to raise the siege of Silistria on account of the severity of the season which then set in. During the two previous months of August and September, in this very neighbourhood, near Paravadi more especially, and over the whole tract of country from the line of the Balkans to that of the Danube, the Russian army had suffered so much from disease, and from want of forage and provisions, that it was doubtful whether it would be able to continue its operations from the debility which ensued in consequence. In the following year the operations of the Russian army were concluded at an earlier period of the season, but, notwithstanding the excitement and advantages attendant upon a succession of victories, it is now known how severely it suffered from sickness, and how easily the treaty of Adrianople might have been avoided had the real state of the Russian forces been known at Constantinople.

The question among us now is, are we able to do anything this year? Another question is, was it ever intended that we should commence operations this year? I believe that it was presumed, as a matter of course, that the Turkish army was to be overwhelmed by the Russians, and, consequently, that our preparations were limited to a defence of the Turkish capital.

The brigade of hospital conveyance carts remains at head-quarters at Varna. A board has been ordered to inspect the Pensioners composing this corps, and to report in what way their services can be best rendered available.

Monastir. Light Division at Monastir.

Camp near Monastir, August 19, 1854.

A general move appears to be at length making upon Varna. The brigade of heavy cavalry which was quartered about four miles from this camp moved the first portion yesterday on their way to that port. The 5th Dragoon Guards have suffered severely from cholera; upwards of 10 per cent. have died among the men. Dr. Pincoffs, the surgeon of the regiment, is among the victims of the disease. The light cavalry brigade, who have been considerably in advance, near Yeni Bazaar, have also, it is said, received orders to march. We hear that a considerable portion of the French and English force has already embarked, and that the Duke of Cambridge's division left Aladyn three days since for the same purpose; but you will receive more full information on these matters direct from the head-quarters. The light division has not yet received orders to move, but they are looked for every hour. Yesterday General Brown rode over and made a hasty inspection of all the regiments. It was said that he had ridden the whole distance from Varna the same morning on a dromedary which, if true, substantiates the remarks about the extraordinary vigour of the General rather than his presence. At about twelve o'clock, when the regiments turned out, the thermometer stood at 96 F. in the shade, and the power of the sun was such that no Turkish general would have travelled, unless imperatively necessary, in any other way but in his carriage, with his tall horses, &c. The general left the same afternoon. This is the first visit he has paid us since the outbreak of the epidemic; indeed, with the exception of about three weeks at Devna, General Brown has not stayed with the division under his command since its arrival at Varna. Report says that, in consequence of the delicate state of health of Lord Raglan, and the frequent references made by him to the—their most important matters to General Brown, his second in command, he will give up shortly his divisional command altogether, and remain permanently at head-quarters. Sir G. Cathcart has ever been wanted to succeed him in the command of the light division.

Whether the movement now going on is, as it is generally considered, to be directed against Sebastopol, will only be known when we are fairly on; at present all is rumour and nothing more. The general impression is that we are at last to have some fighting, but will it appear late in the year to commence operations against the great fortress of the Crimea, and though the troops will be glad of any change, will disease, bad food, and inactivity, have done their work, and the men are not what they were a few months ago. Cases of cholera are still occurring from day to day, but the disease as an epidemic, it is hoped, has now left us. Choleraic diarrhœa, accompanied by extraordinary debility, prevails, however, to a great extent in all the regiments, and what will scarcely be credited after all the thousands of supplies sent from England, the medical officers all complain that they are destitute of many of the necessary quantities of medicines and comforts for the proper treatment of the sick. The ordeal of one regiment has, of his own rich, expended a considerable sum in providing porter and other necessaries, for strengthening those men who have been weakened by the disease so many of them have been suffering from. Under all the circumstances we must consider ourselves most fortunate, that the cholera has made so little havoc among us, for we hear sad accounts of the fatality among the French troops, and those of our own who have had the misfortune to be in or near the fearful pestiferous town of Varna.

Another of those accidents, so many of which we have had the misfortune to encounter since our arrival in Turkey, occurred on the 15th inst., but fortunately, in this instance not attended with a fatal result. Captain Brune, of the 52nd Royal Regiment, Fusiliers, a gallant favourite, had been attending the sale of the effects of the late Captain Dillon, of the 77th Regiment, and was about to return to his own camp, when his horse, a powerful English animal, suddenly reared, but his footing on some hard smooth ground, and fell back upon him. Captain Brune was carried to his own tent, when, to the satisfaction of his friends, it was found that the injury, though serious, was not of that fatal nature which had been feared. He seems to have saved his life to the utmost of his power, as while the horse was not attended with a fatal result. Captain Brune, of the 52nd Royal Regiment, Fusiliers, a gallant favourite, had been attending the sale of the effects of the late Captain Dillon, of the 77th Regiment, and was about to return to his own camp, when his horse, a powerful English animal, suddenly reared, but his footing on some hard smooth ground, and fell back upon him. Captain Brune was carried to his own tent, when, to the satisfaction of his friends, it was found that the injury, though serious, was not of that fatal nature which had been feared. He seems to have saved his life to the utmost of his power, as while the horse which he had purchased a few minutes before, and which at the time of the accident was lying across his shoulder. The flank was on one side of the spine, and was crushed to atoms, and it is quite miraculous how he got free from a fatal injury. Captain Brune had just received the appointment of Brigade-Major to Brigadier-General A. W. Torrens, and was to have left, but for this accident, on the following morning for Varna.

The following officers go to England for the recovery of health:—Colonel Hastings Doyle, Assistant Adjutant-General; Brevet-Major the Hon. H. Maxwell, 7th Regiment; Assistant Surgeon Hodge, Royal Artillery; Lieutenant S. Russell, 39th Regiment; Brevet-Major F. S. Wood, of the First Brigade, 3rd division, is appointed to act pro tempore as assistant quartermaster general in place of Colonel Doyle. Captain Whitehead, 42nd Highlanders, and Lieutenant Roberts, 50th Regiment, have leave to England to retire from the service.

The following officers have leave to proceed to England for the recovery of health:—Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel Crossley, 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards; Captain Forbes, 77th Regiment; Quarter-Master Beadling, 77th Regiment; Ensign and Lieutenant the Hon. W. Quin, Grenadier Guards; Ensign and Lieutenant R. Anstruther, Grenadier Guards; Assistant-Surgeon G. Hawkins, Grenadier Guards; Lieutenant G. Webster, 4th Dragoons. Several other officers have leave for different periods to go on board ship for the benefit of their health.

THE CAMP AT MONASTIR.

The following is an extract of a private letter from an officer in the East:

MONASTIR, August 23.

The same papers which brought us the intelligence that we had been engaged in the neighbourhood of Rustchuk, told us that among other topics of discussion in England one was, "Who originates all the lies about the war?" The question equally applies at the scene, if we may say, of action itself. Names are mentioned, authorities given, proofs adduced, but if you are wise you give no credence to any statement until other means, but the rare, can be brought into court as witnesses. This is the result of camp experience. Are the lies heard and disseminated for the purpose of deceiving the enemy? But our rulers generally speak truth too plainly sometimes, and desertion is a game at which we are not likely to prove victors. Our enemy is one, of whose secret influences and wily tactics the world has had full experience, and on this very soil. Judging from history we can hardly doubt but that the Emperor, if our camps were in England itself, would contrive to have more than one treaty centenary coming them spoilt when he could only. Here in Bulgaria, where so many regard the Russian as their friend and the Ottoman as their oppressor, neither sympathy nor honour would interfere to prevent the treacherous action of all intelligences that might be advantageous to the former, or lead to disadvantage to the latter and his allies. Are these lies surmises, twisted into facts by too ready listeners, and passed along, *crescente comede*, by the credulous ones? Or are they mere idle inventions, created to divert the tedium of inactivity, and for the enjoyment of a little amusement at the effect produced by their circulation? Which was their source, their channel?

The number of sick, and proportion of casualties, in the Light Division is daily diminishing, and the men on parade show signs of more strength and health. Cases of cholera occasionally occur, but they are few and far between, and the medical officers report them less serious in their nature. The weather has been more cool; after much dryness we have had some very refreshing rain; the quality as well as the quantity of the meat is improved, more warm and younger beef being issued. The bread is better baked, and the rations of coffee and rice have proved a most advantageous as well as relishable addition to the soldier's diet. Moreover the Bulgarians come from a long distance round to the camp with milk, honey, eggs, poultry, onions and other supplies. They not only receive prices for their commodities such as they never received before, but the camp police regulations protect them from all annoyance. A feeling of confidence among them has been by their means established, which is the more valuable to us on account of the inability of the commissariat to spill to the troops the groceries and other articles as arranged prior to the commencement of the campaign. A few cows of the turgid sons of Osman have been tempted to cross themselves and open some stuff in the village for the sale of tobacco, shibbuks, dates, primitive cutlery, articles of goats hair manufacture, shorbet, and occasionally but of course rad rum, raki, sweetmeats, in the making of which they excel, and other miscellaneous matters. In one of the stalls may be seen a cask of Bi-field sherry, and of the most refined steel, apparently, but nevertheless highly prized because English goods. Such is the Monastir Bazaar. On the 20th instant a second hospital marquee ordered for each regiment, a welcome addition, through a mistake, to the common-station for the sick. A moderate supply of medicines has also arrived from Varna, and it has been made known, that orders have been given, through and published, as head quarters for the purchase of all comforts recommended for the invalids which the medical purveyors have not already in stores. The postal arrangements are more regular. Notice is given in orders when the mail is to leave, and the letter who has charge of the letter bags starts from this division in time to enable the bearer of the other divisions and arrive in Varna in time for the starting of the steamer. For some portion of these improvements, we feel that we are indebted to our pen and ink sirens—the correspondents of the press—and to the impulse from home consequent on their exertions. Practical instruction in making hastings, gabions, and constructing field entrenchments under the direction of engineer officers has been carried on daily; and the working parties, notwithstanding the heat at the hours of the day at which they have been employed—between breakfast and dinner, and again in the afternoon—from their comfortable cany chairs, have stuck fresh, foreign cap and cover, and from their being unencumbered by pack or belts, have been healthful, bodily, as well as mentally, by the occupation.

The Light Division has now been one month encamped around this obscure village; a place where I suppose few English or other gazing travellers ever before stayed longer than to refresh his horses at the fountain. Even its name is a question, and various were the designations given to it. This is the authentic *ne plus ultra*, as Oriental subjects seldom agree about the orthography of proper names, and their sounds are rendered by the various experts assumed in different works by the Silks given to the same person or place. The one most applied according to the first impression made on the ear without much reference to the derivation of the peculiar dialect of the speaker. Various mistakes result. Thus, even "Our Special Correspondent" a short time since wrote of the encampment of one of the divisions at Kirjali, near Aladyn. In vain would the writer investigate or search in the most detailed map of the country for such a place as Kirjali, and equally successful would be a traveller in his effort to find the place itself, did his finding it depended a recognition of its name by a native, however well-disposed he might be to act the part of a guide. The fact is, a short distance of the main road from Varna, there are two villages called Aladyn, about a couple of miles apart, one bounded chiefly by Bulgarians of the Greek church, the

other altogether by followers of the true prophet. To distinguish these, one is called Eyuk-Aladya, or Great Aladya, the other Kutchuk-aladya, or Little-Aladya. The latter it is which has become changed to Krijuk. Names of more importance than this have become similarly changed. The celebrated treaty by which in 1774 the Porte recognised the independence of the Crimea was signed at Kutchuk-Kainardji—a village with a like prefix—in Bulgaria. Kainardji remains, the qualifying adjective has been dropped.

The name of Monastir—the ultimate pronounced long and like double r—was given to the village by its former tenants, members of the Greek church, who are said to have been expelled without any ceremony by the Ottomans now who inhabit it. The name frequently occurs in Turkey. It is said that a monastery was established here, whence its appellation, but no traces of it exist now. A description of Monastir would answer for that of any other of the Turkish villages I have seen on Bulgarian ground. Viewed from a distance, it appears, among the magnificent scenery in which it is placed, like a number of brown patches of uncultivated ground. On a nearer approach these patches are found to consist of a collection of low, flat, one-story houses—their thatch or tile roofs projecting over their sides—each with a garden and orchard surrounded by a stake and wattle fence or thorny hedge. Among them one or two stand conspicuous by their size, better roofing, and whitened walls. These are probably the house of the Agha, or head man of the village, and the mosque. There are no straggling cottages near, no country houses at a little distance on some pleasing accord or favourable disutility alone is considered, and the inhabitants huddle as closely together as possible for mutual protection. On entering the village no signs of order or cleanliness present themselves. There is no attempt at regular streets; the lanes wind just as the fences of the several enclosures happen to direct them, but generally converging to a central space where the principal fountain is placed. You cannot enter any of the houses, that is, unless it happen to belong to some Christian Rajjas—and the Christians and Mahometans generally keep aloof in distinct villages—for if it belong to an Osmanli in no way could you offend him more than by intruding into its privacy. To tell the truth, there is little attraction to do so. The ground about the house can be seen full of neglected refuse and weeds. Whatever attraction the master may pay to cleanliness in his personal habits, it is evident there is not much attention performed elsewhere. The house itself is little better than wanting plastered with mud—sometimes, by no means always, whitewashed—with a coarsely-thatched roof. Yet luxurious abounds, but it is not turned to any account. In the instance of the Agha's house, the walls are of stone, roughly cut, and roughly plastered, having horizontal beams of timber at certain intervals, like the layers of flat tile among the Romans; and the roof is of the gutter tiles which are used in all the larger towns. These roofs must be of great weight, for the tiles themselves are very thick and clumsy, and are placed in layers two deep, concavity, to carry off the rain, while a third layer is placed above, to divert it from the crevices between the edges formed by the adjoining tiles. In the lanes near to the houses all is filth and neglect—stagnant pools of water slowly evaporate, and everywhere lie refuse and other abominations. The refuse from the cow-houses and stables is piled in large heaps near the houses, from which it has been thrown away. In the village of Monastir, in an open space close to the entrance of the house of the Agha, is a wonderful heap of this offensive material, dried by time and the sun's heat. I had the curiosity to pace it. The circumference at its base was 120 paces—upwards of 100 yards—and it rose considerably above the level of the wall surrounding the house, and nearly as high as the house itself. In the extensive sheds and stabling attached to this house are now our commissariat horses, and part of the stores, and here is a guard of Turkish soldiers, and the commissariat guard close by. It would appear as if one could judge of the wealth of the householder by the size and proportion of the mound I have alluded to—it being the most satisfactory evidence of his possession in cattle and horses.

The mosque, in Turkish "Mosdjid," is a simple structure, rather substantially built, without minaret or external ornament. It consists of three parts—a square platform, raised one or two feet from the ground, and open at two sides, excepting a slight wooden railing—and two chambers. One of these is the place of prayer and reading, the other the apartment for the imam, or minister of religion. The interior or the nearer is clean. On the whitewashed walls are passages of the Koran, and on that which is supposed to look toward the holy city is a deep niche, and on either side a tall candlestick. From the roof are suspended a few small oil lamps. Some matting on the floor, and a reading desk complete the furniture. Openings in the wall, fitted with wooden shutters, and a few bits, constitute the arrangements for light and air, here as in the houses; and through these the swallows come and go, building their nests among the rafters without interruption. Under ordinary circumstances this appears the place of rendezvous for the village politicians who squat, chatting and smoking in groups, on the ground about the building. At present the imam's room is occupied by our male guard, in place of groups of turbaned Osmanlis passes a red-coated sentry with shako and white saxe, and the sentry itself a short time since, though now empty, was converted into a granary. The mosque is not a consecrated building in the church is with us, neither does any sacred character attach to the Imam: he answers more to the character of a reader only, then to our idea of a priest. The founder of the mosque has left a stipend, perhaps in consideration of which he reads the Koran, performs the marriage and funeral ceremonies, keeps the mosque clean and in order; but in other respects he follows what occupation may suit him, just like his neighbours.

Near the mosque is the principal fountain. It consists of a small stone hollowed out, and backed up by a stone wall, having some attempt at architectural display. Out of this wall a few metal pipes project, and from each of these water continually flows into a long stone cistern below. Of these in Monastir there are ten, and as one is filled the water flows by a groove to the adjoining cistern, and when all are full is carried away by a pipe underground. At each of these cisterns two or three horses can drink at a time, and from the running lets is obtained the water for cooking purposes. Other fountains of a similar kind, but of less pretensions, are scattered in various parts of the village. They are supplied from springs which rise in the neighbouring ravines. From the water at each it might that not only the horse can stoop down and drink, but other animals, as the dog, goat, and sheep, can equally quench their thirst at the same source.

The fact we allude to a striking fact which exists in Turkey, and which, it has forcibly occurred to me, might be turned to material advantage in our own country. Every one has heard of the dogs of Constantinople, Smyrna, and other towns of the Muslim, and perhaps also the Turk, not more curious than true, of their social habits, their discipline, the wars they wage among themselves against intruders in their respective districts, &c. But what I would call attention to is that these dogs—a savage looking fellow, too—lie in numbers in every street—not disturbing themselves to get out of your way—unwanted, unfed, and unnoticed by any police regulations—with a thermometer ranging for above the English summer heat—and yet hydrophobia is a disease comparatively unknown. I made particular inquiries and spoke on the subject to an Italian, who, among other enterprises, was in the habit of speculating as a dog fancier. This person had lived for some years past at Patras, and he assured me he had never heard of a case. Indeed, it is evident that no such disease exists, for one mad dog among so vast a canine population would lead to such a multiplication of the malady that their hapless neighbours would have nothing left but to fly. I have seen in the course of the last month or two in the Daily News and other papers many letters on the subject of hydrophobia, and many far-fetched and impossible suggestions for its prevention and cure. Could the solution of the difficulty might be found in the fact above stated. As far as my own observation went, I was led to conclude that the absence of this horrible disease was owing to two causes—the principal and most important—that in all directions tanks of pure water abounded, at which the dogs could quench their thirst as their natural appetite required; the second, not until we Christian gentlemen came among them, they were never worried. Whether the experiment of having in our streets in place of, or in addition to, our present cumbrous pumps, small constantly flowing streams of pure water, with troughs of a proper height for "even a dog" to drink at, may be worth trying for eradicating hydrophobia from among us I will not pretend to say; but, if not successful in this respect, I am sure it would be productive of more other advantages in London. I throw out the hint—take it for what it is worth.

Of the lower classes of Monastir I can tell you little. The women whom you meet in the street or in the bazaars are veiled from a-forehead. They slowly stalk along in a black cloak or sheet of some sort, or rather shuffle, for their feet are covered in slippers only, and though their heads and faces, carefully veiled, are left free, are occupied in a white napkin, very far removed from the coquettish thin veil of the capital, if they meet a stranger they stop, turn away, and remain fixed like statues until he has passed. The men are no subject, apparently, to any other study to occupy themselves in sipping coffee and smoking their chibouks. Not so in the Bulgar villages. The men there are busy in the fields, or in their gardens, and the women active and constantly employed. Weaving with them is a regular pursuit—they spin and dye their own wool or silk—and some of their needlework is really very curious in its patterns, and in the combination of colours with it. The workmanship would be admired, I believe, by many of our fair Berlin wool workers in England. In the gardens the chief objects of cultivation are a few kinds of vegetables, the vine, and the maize or Indian corn. In spite of neglect—for weeds of all kinds are allowed to grow with it—the ears of the maize are large, and the plant is as flourishing and productive as in more southern latitudes. For a pillow, and nearly full size. In its present state, when roasted among the embers of a wood fire, it forms a favourite article of food among the natives. In the orchards are various kinds of plum trees, but, with few exceptions, they are little improved, for want of attention, to the same trees in their wild state. The luxuriance of the vegetable world in the long mountain ravines is surprising. They are filled with various kinds of fruits from the spy r, pear, several sorts of plums, the mulberry, and even which almost equal the English filbert in size. Among these the wild vine grows in remarkable luxuriance. Several species of nuts are found, but do not appear to be any great size. The walnut is one of the most frequent trees in all parts of the country, and from its widespreading branches and dense foliage is so good a favourite for its shade as for its fruit, which is equal in size and flavour to the cultivated tree in our own plantations. I should imagine from the state of these and other trees in their wild state that by cultivation they could be brought to a degree of perfection almost unknown elsewhere.

Near to Monastir are numerous artificial mounds, some of very large size. One of these has just been opened in the course of the entrenchment works, and a skeleton exposed, but no information as to its probable origin or date. It is intended to pursue the investigation of the troops are not moved.

THE CAMP AT MONASTIR.

Letter from an officer of the light division of the British army in Turkey.

CAMP MONASTIR, Aug. 23, 1854.

A sudden order was received yesterday afternoon twenty-four hours, and for all the regiments to parade in full marching order. It was at the same time made known that on Saturday morning the division was to commence its march to Varna, where it was expected to arrive on Tuesday, the 29th, to be ready to embark. It is said that the Artillery, and nearly everything necessary for drags appreciated, was already on board ship, and that the division seamed to Varna are to follow immediately. The old difficulty is still left of getting sufficient carts to convey the sick, and invalid officers and men, all of whom are to accompany the division. A depot will remain at Varna with our mounts, luggage, horses, and other things. The heavy cavalry regiments, and some of the line regiments lately arrived, are said to be for this duty. Most of the weakly men will need to be left behind. The 44th, who were left at Gallipoli, have arrived, and disembarked at Varna. Sebastopol is still named as the object of the expedition, and general credit is given to the report. Although the troops are weakly, it is hoped that the move and the excitement will renew them into renewed strength. We shall be able, it is thought, to continue operations until the end of October; and that that there will still be time enough to take Sebastopol. If that can do it, it will be soon.

The total loss from cholera in the light division, between the outbreak of the disease at Devna on July 21st England August 25th, has been 6 officers, 178 men, and 6 women. This does not include the men of the same regiments who have died from cholera in the invalid depôt at Varna, which is considered by men of the light division, nor those who have died in the ground hospitals.

We have not received papers since the 3rd instant, so that we are behind hand in general intelligence. Our news of the evacuation of the Principalities has come through even sources—letters of General Canrobert, who passed by on their way to Varna with the intelligence, and also from officers of the division, who have just returned from visiting Rasschuck and Silistria. The Ottomans were crossing the Danube as fast as their limited supply of craft would allow on Saturday, August 26.—The 22nd brigade light division, and the second battalion Rifle brigade left this morning. The order for the march of the second brigade was countermanded in the course of the night in consequence of the commissariat officers not being able to obtain sufficient carts for the conveyance of the sick. It was ordered that no sick, whatever their condition, were to be left behind, and as the waggons of the subdivision corps have never reached this division, there were no means of carrying the sick but in the orderly (invalid) carts, or on stretchers on men's shoulders. One fatal case of cholera occurred during the night in the 33rd Regiment, and one death from fever among the engineers; they were left to be buried by one of the regiments of the second brigade left behind. The sick in the stretcher, and a few carried on shoulders, with the slow pace of bearers to relieve those engaged in carrying them, formed a melancholy procession after the regiments had left the ground, and were well on their way to Divna. The regiments themselves, however, moved off in excellent spirits, encumbered by packs or blankets, both of which were carried for them, and apparently in high glee at the prospect of changing their low monotonous life for active service.

August 28.—The second brigade has rejoined the 2nd, and the light division is now encamped six or seven miles from Varna. It is said that we embark on Friday next, or on Sunday the 3rd.

August 29.—The first brigade of the light division entered yesterday morning, and the second brigade on the evening of yesterday (29th), at their encamping ground about 6 or 7 miles from Varna. About 200 carts were acquired to remove the sick of the division, and they suffered much from the delay and joining of those principles with them. On the second day's march, after, however, all the sick had started, one of the ambulance waggons made its appearance, and when about half way to the end of the march, two more were met. It appears that much delay was caused in the getting the several parts of these vehicles together, from their not having been properly marked, and from delay in removing some portions from shipboard. They have since been employed in marching with the rear Guards division, and in other duties near Varna. None of the men and officers were removed on the march, but as there is no covering to these, the glare of the sun and the dust became very annoying and troublesome to the patients. Dhulies, such as we have in India, would be much more useful. The men report the ambulance waggons as very soft and easy conveyances. The ambulance two-wheeled carts, they say, are very feeble, in bad roads, such as those of Turkey, to be upset. One man of the 90th Cutbaughit Rangers was seized with cholera just on leaving Monastir, and died the same day, and, in the night, I regret to say, the Senior Assistant-Surgeon, Dr. Sleggy, was seized and died in seven hours. His body was brought in, and he was buried the same evening here under a large tree on the plain, close to the encampment. Every officer of the regiment attended his funeral, and there was much real grief, for he had always been a most kind and attentive surgeon, and been much esteem during the late visitation, and was deservedly esteemed and regretted by the rest of the corps, as well as by his brother officers.

Every one is in better spirits since the prospect of active service. The men marched very well (for their cumbrous packs and blankets were transferred to another or to country bipes), and made light of the move with only their arms and ammunition. One of the most trifling parts of the march was said to have been in the 2nd brigade, commanded by Colonel Bailey, where the two regiments in advance, the 19th and 30th, were kept waiting of a halting place near the village of Monastir, while the arrival of the regiment farthest off (the 77th), so that the brigade might be together in the form. The sick of the regiment in advance (the 19th) were then kept two hours waiting in the sun, and those of the 30th upwards of an hour. They might have easily moved on in advance, but in consequence of the delay the train of invalid conveying the sick did not arrive at their resting place until after sunset; and as it was a dark night, the consequent suffering of the sick, from the delay and difficulty in pitching the hospital marquees, was much increased. But then the whole brigade arrived properly formed—the regiments, the pack-horses, the sick in rear—all strictly as it ought to be. The 1st brigade of the light division is now about to march towards Varna; the 2nd brigade to be to follow in the afternoon. Some of the pack-horses and orphan used by the first will have to be sent back for the use of the second brigade. The date of embarkation is not precisely known, but it is to be within two or three days. The sooner the better.

Marsh of the Light Division back to Varna.

Embarkation of the Lt. Div.n at Varna.

The Light Div.n in Varna Harbour.

VARNA, Sept. 3.

An order was issued on the morning of the 29th ult. for the 2nd brigade of the light division to remain until to-morrow at the ground (about seven miles from Varna) on which they had encamped the previous evening. At half-past two p.m., to the great joy of every one in the three regiments of this brigade—the 19th, 77th, and 88th—this order was countermanded, and another to commence our march to Varna in an hour was substituted. At half-past three the ground was cleared, baggage and tents packed, sick stowed away in the long lines of arabas, and the head of the column moving to seaward. What had led to the selection of this ground, and that of the previous night for encampment, it is impossible to conceive. In both instances the same ground had been previously encamped upon: in both the odour was most offensive, decayed refuse from former occupants, both human and equine, lay around in all directions; indeed, from the last place having been the site of a cavalry encampment, a great part of it was little better than a dunghcap. There were certainly advantages which must have led to its use—neighbourhood to water, and to the high road—but a large tract of land lay around, not much more distant from the road, the same distance from the water, and that had not the disadvantage of having been lately manured. To the offensive nature of this last position another officer of the 88th Regiment has, not improbably, fallen a victim—Major Mackay. He was quite well on retiring the evening of the 29th; in the morning he fell ill, in the afternoon was a corpse. He was cut off almost as quickly as poor Dr. Shegog, the surgeon of the same regiment, only the day before. Both officers were exceedingly beloved in the regiment, and their loss at the present moment is most severely felt. Several men in the brigade were also attacked by this disease. The first brigade of the division had the good fortune to be encamped on fresh ground, on a gentle slope, and altogether in a more favourable position, and escaped without any cases of the disease.

You know, of course, that attached to the division is a deputy inspector of hospitals, who is said to be "in medical charge;" and to each brigade is a surgeon of the first class, having a more direct charge in general matters of each regiment in his brigade. The light division, in its march up the country and back again, has been encamped, including the present one, at seven different stations; and I am informed, on the best authority, that in no one instance has the medical officer in charge of the division, or any of his subordinates, been consulted as to the site occupied. Surely this demands inquiry. It would be easily ascertained whether General Brown when he was himself, or sent out his officer of the Quartermaster-General's department, took with him or sent out any of his medical officers too. It is the duty of military medical men especially to acquaint themselves by study and experience with such sanitary subjects as lead to the prevention of sickness—always more important than its cure. No course of study is requisite before officers in the British army are placed upon the staff; whereas in France and Germany some years are devoted to prepare and instruct them in the particular duties they are called upon to perform. If inquiry be made who are the active officers of the quartermaster's department it will be found that men are selected from regiments, sometimes as particular talent—oftentimes as particular interest or friendship—may dictate. Nothing has been more evident, as far as this campaign has yet gone, than that some previous education is necessary preparatory to undertaking these duties. I have seen an ensign taken from his regiment in spite of his colonel representing that he did not yet know his ordinary drill and other duties, and placed on his uncle's staff as a full-fledged A. D. C. How can such a boy become anything else than a mere appendage, to receive guests in a drawing room, or to add to the glitter of a retinue in public? Can even a simple order be transmitted with correctness by one who does not comprehend the nature of it? We talk of those Turks being brave fellows, but badly officered—we had better first look at home; no honest officer among us, or well-wisher to the service and his country, can seriously deny the necessity of a very sweeping reform in the whole economy of our army staff. I could fill sheets with the mere details of mischievous blunders that I have personally been acquainted with from orders and counter-orders, from mistakes and neglect in particular departments, and still more from the want of mutual comprehension and concentaneous action among those who ought to be working together for the attainment of one and the same object. There is the less necessity for this, however, and the evils have been so great and so manifest that they will no doubt be plainly reflected in that mirror of what has been going on here—the press—that they must lead to their own cure. I am quite sure that whatever courage and determination can effect will be done at Sebastopol or elsewhere. God grant that this may be turned to good account by those who have the direction of it.

In spite of the adverse circumstances which have surrounded us lately, the men marched in excellent spirits, fought against debility or fatigue, sang on the road, and on Varna coming in sight gave lusty cheers, interrupted only by good-humoured sallies and laughter. "Look down there," cries out one fellow, "I'm blowed if there arn't the Guards a-drinking of our share of the porter." "Fair," says another, "they say there's lots of it in that Bisehorpoll we're going to take, and we won't let them have more than their share of that, any how." "Bono, Johnny," says half-a-dozen to some Turk as he passes. "Bono, Johnny," he gravely replies; then follows a general laugh and a shout, and the Turk smiles too, as he sees there is some sort of a joke in the salutation, though what it is he evidently don't comprehend. Then tents after tents come into sight, and ships after ships in the bay below—then the 2nd brigade comes along side of the 1st brigade of the Light Division;—then there are more cheers;—then the regiments fall into their places, and in a few minutes more nothing is heard but the sharp hammering of hundreds of tent-pegs, and very little is seen, for the sun has set long ago, and clouds have gathered, and it is night. Keep away rain, till our cooks have made us a brew of coffee, and then, safely housed under our canvas, "Good night to all."

The whole of the 30th, as had been the case for many days, was occupied in embarking troops of all arms, and munitions of war. The light division was, by the 31st, all on board. Every available space in each transport is occupied. Officers making shakedowns on tables or any vacant place, men lying wherever their neighbours will leave a bit of room, and all bearing the crowding cheerfully. Of course such crowding could not be endured for many days—disease would inevitably break out. They are all glad to leave Bulgaria, and eager for an opportunity of showing that if they have not been occupied with the enemy before this, it has not been from any want of desire on their parts. You would be surprised if you were here to witness how little anxiety—or change in every day manners and life—is shown by the men or officers who are on the eve of such a tremendous struggle, as every one expects the attack on Sebastopol to be. The chances are calculated as quietly as if it were an approaching game at chess. It has appeared strange that, closely packed as the troops necessarily are, an addition should be made to the numbers on board by sending the women of the different regiments with them. Yet an order was issued that they should embark with their husbands in the transports—I presume, because government has made no arrangements for their being taken care of on shore. Throughout, the provision made for these wretched creatures has been lamentable. Two tents per regiment have been allowed, but as no blankets could be obtained for them they appealed for a share of their husbands' blankets and great coat. Hence ensued the practice of a number of married men and women sleeping together round the pole of a small tent—literally according to the common simile, "like herrings in a barrel." When regiments were encamped for any lengthened period, the officers commanding caused huts to be constructed, to remedy the evil as much as possible. No provision was made for the women when they became sick. The clothes which they brought with them have become threadbare. In every way, the condition of the women, physically and morally, has been pitiable. How much wiser and kinder it would have been to have forbidden them from taking the field at all!

All the weakly men have been embarked with their regiments. The sea air will soon recruit their strength, and every one who can carry a Minié will be of service. One regiment left only 20 sick behind, and in several the numbers left have been very limited; each man, with very few exceptions, making every exertion to accompany his regiment.

It is said that the camps of the Russians are much scattered, evidently from an uncertainty as to the point at which the attempt to effect a landing will be made. It has also been observed that guns are placed in considerable numbers along the coast, and it is understood that to provide these the ships in harbour have been dismantled. What they will be able to do in opposition to the heavy metal of our ships remains to be seen. When a landing is once accomplished, few doubt that the fall of Sebastopol itself will be anything more than the work of a short time, notwithstanding the exertions that are said to have been lately made for increasing the strength of the fortifications on the land side. The naval officers do not make so light of the resistance that will be made by the Russians: they speak of their gunnery as most excellent; but among those of the army who have been for the last three months in Bulgaria the estimation in which the Russian army is held has been by no means increased from the result of their efforts against Silistria and elsewhere on the Danube.

As I wrote on the 2nd inst., we are still lying in harbour waiting the signal to start upon the expedition, on the issue of which our own and the fates of so many others are pending. I hardly think we can leave till Tuesday, the 5th, for though the English arrangements will be completed by this evening, the French will not have finished theirs until Monday or Tuesday. We are to rendezvous at Baltalick. Various points on the coast of the Crimea are named for the landing, the information however evidently arising from the judgment of individuals rather than from any authentic source. In the same way it is reported that the French and English forces will disembark at two distinct places—one to the north, the other to the south of Sebastopol itself. We now hear that our own force is much stronger than that of the French: that whereas we can bring 30,000 men into the field, they can only send 24,000. This is attributed to two circumstances: first, that the numbers said to have arrived in this country have been much exaggerated; secondly, their severe losses from cholera. To this latter cause alone no less than 10,000 men are said to have become ineffectives from death or disability. The absence of cleanliness around a French camp—it is notorious with how little regard to what we consider necessary propriety and decency the ordinary offices are performed by French soldiers, and the ground for a wide distance around their tents bears witness to the fact—their peculiar diet and cookery, and particularly their fondness for such vegetables as melons, cucumbers, and other succulents, which rapidly become stale and fœtid, in this climate—these are evidently favouring influences for the spread of the disease. There can be little doubt of the fact that in the English camps, in those regiments which by attention to the diet of the men, and its preparation—by their exercises and habits, and by great care to sanitary measures in general, rendered themselves less weak, and less exposed to the evils arising from a malarious atmosphere, ceteris paribus, the disease made less progress. Although no one could resist altogether the wide-spreading influence of the pestiferous atmosphere arising from the Devna marsh, yet it would appear as if the power of resistance was proportioned to the previous habits and other personal circumstances connected with the individual exposed to it. These cases have occurred in the regiments of the light division since their embarkation—in the 33rd, 19th, and 7th regiments. As soon as it was established that the men were labouring under cholera they were at once removed to hospital on shore.

Passage of Wounded from Crimea to Scutari
After the Alma.

It is impossible for any one to see the melancholy sights of the last few days without feelings of surprise and indignation at the deficiencies of our medical system. The manner in which the sick and wounded have been treated is worthy only of the savages of Dahomey. The sufferings on board the Vulcan were bad enough. There were 300 wounded, and 120 cholera patients, and these were attended to by four surgeons. The scene is described as terrible. The wounded mind the surgeons by the skirts as they picked their way through the heaps of dying and dead; but the surgeons shook them off. It may be expected, and perhaps was right, that the officers should receive the principal attention, and they possibly required the almost undivided labour of four men; but some one must be in fault when large bodies of wounded men are put on board a ship with no one to give them surgical assistance, or even supply their necessary wants. Numbers arrived at Scutari without having been touched by a surgeon since they fell pierced by Russian bullets on the slopes of the Alma. Their wounds were stiff and their strength exhausted as they were lifted out of the boats to be carried to the hospital, where, fortunately, surgical aid may be obtained. But all other horrors sink into insignificance compared with the state of the unfortunate passengers by the Colombo. This vessel left the Crimea on the morning of the 24th. Wounded men were being placed on board for two days before she sailed, and when she weighed anchor she carried the following numbers:—27 wounded officers, 422 wounded soldiers, and 104 Russian prisoners—in all 553 souls. About half of the wounded had received surgical assistance before they were put on board. To supply the wants of this mass of misery were four medical men, one of whom was the surgeon of the ship,—sufficiently employed in looking after the crew, who at this place and season are seldom free from sickness. The ship was literally covered with prostrate forms, so as to be almost unmanageable. The officers could not get below to feed their seamen, and the run was made at hazard. The vessel was at sea 12 hours longer through this mischance. The worst cases were placed on the upper deck, which in a day or two became a mass of putridity. The neglected grisaded wounds bred maggots, which crawled in every direction, infecting the food of the unhappy beings on board. The putrid animal matter caused such a stench that the officers and crew were nearly overcome, and the captain is now ill from the effects of the five days' misery. All the blankets, to the number of 1,500, have been thrown overboard as useless. Thirty men died during the voyage. The surgeons worked as hard as possible, but could do little among so many, and many an unfortunate fellow first came under a medical man's hand on his arrival at Scutari, six days after the battle. It is an ungracious task to find fault and to speak of the shortcomings of men who do their utmost, but an unfortunate neglect has occurred since the arrival of the steamer. Forty-six men have been left on board for two days, when by some extra exertion they might have been safely placed in the hospital. The vessel is quite putrid, but a large number of men will be immediately employed to clean and fumigate her, and thus avoid the danger of typhus, which generally arises in such conditions. Two transports were towed by the Colombo, and their state was nearly as bad.

Among the objects of philanthropy for some time past has been the improvement of the condition of the soldier. Progress may have been made in some respects, but how much remains to be done will be recognised by every one who has seen the condition of the sick and wounded during the last fortnight. No blame is due to the medical men or the officers in command. They work early and late, are worn and harassed, and feel as much pity as any one for the unfortunate dying creatures; but our whole medical system is shamefully bad. The worn-out prisoners who were brought out as an ambulance corps are totally useless, and not only are surgeons not to be had, but there are no dressers and nurses to carry out the surgeon's directions and to attend on the sick during the interval between his visits. Here the French are greatly our superiors. Their medical arrangements are extremely good, their surgeons more numerous, and they have also the help of the "Sisters of Charity," who have accompanied the expedition in incredible numbers. These devoted women are excellent nurses, and perform for the sick and wounded all the offices which could be rendered in the most complete hospitals. We have nothing. The men must attend on each other, or receive no relief at all. The least that could have been done would have been to send out an efficient staff of surgeons. Surely the late battle has not come unexpectedly. The army has been at Varna for months, and the expedition to Sebastopol has been long prepared. Nor are medical men rare, or their services ruinously expensive. There are hundreds who would be glad to come out to Turkey on temporary employment, with the chance of some permanent situation in future. But, though cholera gave due notice of its presence—though fever at first attacked a few, and increased its violence day by day—hardly any increase of the medical staff took place. In Varna lately 400 sick were attended by four men, and now vessels are sent on a voyage with a surgeon to 120 wounded wretches. As the worst is not over, and has indeed hardly commenced, the attention of the Government may be well directed to this pressing want.

The Army Medical System.

Case of Wounded after the battle of Alma.

It is with feelings of surprise and anger that the public will learn that no sufficient preparations have been made for the proper care of the wounded. Not only are there not sufficient surgeons—that, it might be urged, was unavoidable; not only are there no dressers and nurses—that might be a defect of system for which no one is to blame; but what will be said when it is known that there is not even linen to make bandages for the wounded! The greatest consternation prevails for the sufferings of the unhappy inmates of Scutari, and every family is giving sheets and old garments to supply their wants. But, why could not this clearly foreseen want have been supplied? Can it be said that the battle of the Alma has been an event to take the world by surprise? Has not the expedition to the Crimea been the talk of the last four months? And when the Turks gave up to our use the vast barracks to form a hospital and depôt, was it not on the ground that the loss of the English troops was sure to be considerable when engaged in so dangerous an enterprise? And yet, after the troops have been six months in the country, there is no preparation for the commonest surgical operations! Not only are the men kept, in some cases, for a week without the hand of a medical man coming near their wounds—not only are they left to expire in agony, unheeded and shaken off, though catching desperately at the surgeon whenever he makes his rounds through the fetid ship; but now, when they are placed in the spacious building, where we were led to believe that every thing was ready which could ease their pain or facilitate their recovery, it is found that the commonest appliances of a workhouse sick ward are wanting, and that the men must die through the medical staff of the British army having forgotten that old rags are necessary for the dressing o wounds. If Parliament were sitting some notice would probably be taken of these facts, which are notorious and have excited much concern; as it is, it rests with the Government to make inquiries into the conduct of those who must have so greatly neglected their duty.

Transfer of the Wounded from the Crimea to Scutari.

The Wounded at Scutari.

Every man of common modesty must feel, not exactly ashamed of himself, but somehow rather smaller than usual, when he reads the strange and terrible news of the war. Here we are sitting by our firesides, devouring the morning paper in luxurious solitude, lazily tracing the path of conquest on one of Arrowsmith's best maps, counting the days of Sebastopol, and inscribing the look of the Czar as he finds that the key of the Euxine is wrenched from his hands. To us war is a spectacle, and, if we happen to have no friends engaged in it, a very amusing spectacle. It is true we are paying a double income-tax, and it is quite as well that we should be pinched somewhere; but, on the whole, the suffering is sadly vicarious. Those poor fellows are going through innumerable hardships, to bite the dust at last in mortal agony before a Russian redoubt, not for any quarrel of their own, but to satisfy our high feelings of honour, and save us the trouble of a personal vindication. We indulge in all the sentiment of the affair; we revel in a chivalrous detestation of Russia and compassion for the Turk; we are raising the destinies of the earth; we are weighing in the balance the mightiest Power of modern times, and pronouncing its doom. All this is very awful but very interesting, and, though the drama has hitherto been tedious, the catastrophe must now be at hand. But, while we are all in the third heaven of martial ecstasy, there is one little consideration that must now and then abate the sublimity of our enjoyment. What are we doing for the cause we have so much at heart? Is it right that these poor fellows should bear the whole of the burden? Soldiers and sailors are not the savage, murderous, ravaging, and destroying creatures they are sometimes imagined. Till they are dying of hunger and thirst, or have seen their comrades falling all round them, they are the merest sheep in the world. The wolves are those who stay at home, blow up the angry passions of the war, and feed its perpetual resentments. Is it fit that the soldier should suffer everything, and we not at all? Or rather, is it fit that he should suffer anything that it may be in our power to remove? The amount of suffering is so great that its very magnitude robs it of sympathy. There is indeed much that is wholly beyond our reach. We cannot stay the pest that prowls round the encampment, rages in the barracks, and hovers over the line-of-battle ship. We cannot make the barren strand flow with sweet water. We cannot protect the exhausted soldier from the mid-day sun, from the pelting shower, and the searching dew. Heaven alone can save him in the last deadly strife, and the dreadful exigencies of the crisis allow but small attention to the thousands of poor wretches who have to pass the night of victory or defeat with no friendly hand to bind their wounds or slake their deadly thirst. All this is beyond our power, but, if we only wish to do something, we have no doubt that something may be found to be done.

The wounded were carried to the ships and transported to the barrack at Scutari, where they now lie. This vast building is admirably adapted to the purpose, and, as the supply of surgeons is larger than has hitherto been thought necessary in war, the sufferers may so far be considered well off. But their number, which, including the wounded, and the cholera and fever patients, cannot be less than 4,000, would be beyond the capacity of almost any medical staff. The proportion of surgeons falls still very far below the standard of any ordinary hospital. It is barely enough, if enough, for operations, and for the worst cases. It is not enough for that regular, close, and delicate attention which is absolutely necessary in many cases for the cure as well as for the comfort of the patient. Thus we are told of patients lying for hours, and even days, and making desperate attempts to catch the surgeon in his flying visits from ward to ward. This great deficiency, great as it is, can scarcely be called the greatest. There are no nurses at Scutari; at least, none for the English, though the French are attended by some Sisters of Mercy from a neighbouring convent. But what is almost incredible, but nevertheless true, there is not even linen and lint to bind wounds. It certainly reflects great disgrace somewhere or other, that a material so necessary to the cure of wounds as a hospital itself should have been forgotten, and that, while the Turkish Government has provided a palace for the reception of the wounded, the British Government has not even found linen to bandage their wounds. Nor is this all. The fever patients and the wounded suffer a dreadful thirst, for which cooling draughts are necessary. The Government that has omitted nurses and bandages from the requirements of the wounded is not likely to have treated them to luxuries. Indeed, at this moment the four thousand inmates of the hospitals at Scutari and Therapia have none but what they can obtain by private friendship or precarious benevolence.

Now, here is happily provided an occasion for that sympathy which, as we observed above, the terrible details of warfare ought to awaken. If it is the mysterious order of Providence that others must go to the war for us, must hunger and thirst, expose themselves to the pest, suffer dreadful wounds, and die in our cause; and if that consideration is one to produce some uneasiness in a sensitive mind, the remedy consists in doing what we can; and we can do a good deal. Here, then, good citizens of London, is the opportunity you profess to desire for showing how your hearts beat for your fellow-countrymen and your noble allies. We certainly had no taste for the project of celebrating the union of the British and French arms by a banquet at the Crystal Palace. As it seemed to us, the battle had yet to be fought, and turtle and champagne were not the best means of testifying our sympathy with those whom we had sent out to suffer wounds or death in the cause which united the two armies. We have now an opportunity, not of eating and drinking ourselves in honour of our noble but suffering soldiers, but of sending them a few creature comforts. Four or five thousand pounds would do a great deal were among so many men, and very possibly, ere this, the number may be augmented beyond all reckoning by the progress of the siege already begun. The best and most thoughtful Government in the world cannot do everything, and there will always be much left to private kindness. Even our military hospitals at home are not furnished with beds of roses, still less are those at Scutari and Therapia. So, as we let these poor fellows fight for us, let us send to them also the means for celebrating the victorious union of our armies. These suggestions are held out in no disparagement of the munificence already displayed to the families of the absent soldiers, still less to the exclusion of other graceful forms of international sympathy. Surely the gallant chiefs of the two armies will deserve the most handsome testimonials that taste and good feeling can devise from the wealthy British public. But that admits of postponement,—not so the sufferings of the sick and wounded in the hospitals of Constantinople and the Black Sea.

TREATMENT OF THE WOUNDED IN THE CRIMEA.

We have been favoured with a copy of the following important letter from the Crimea. It is addressed, as the trace will show, to a medical gentleman. Its statements, we have occasion to know, may be entirely relied upon; and we have therefore asked and obtained permission to give it publicity.

EXPEDITIONARY ARMY, CRIMEA,
Oct. 14, 1854.

So complete were the medical and surgical arrangements made in England for the benefit of the army—so ample the supply of surgical materiel sent out by the director-general—so earnest and well-selected were the army surgeons, both staff and regimental, that it was naturally expected wherever an engagement took place every necessary would be at hand, and all would be order and method. Under such circumstances it would be impossible, amid a multitude of gunshot wounds and injuries, so diversified as they must be in respect to situation, extent, and form, but that many facts would be observed of interest in the science of surgery. Besides, new weapons were about to be brought into use; the comparative effects of injuries by the Minie and other rifles were to be noticed. A brigade of hospital conveyance corps, on an improved principle, had been formed and organized at a great expense to the country, and after a considerable expenditure of time and thought by the most experienced surgeons and others; so that, considering all the care and these advantages, by many army surgeons it was fondly hoped that a new era in military surgery had opened. Had these anticipations been realised it would have been a source of pride and pleasure to me to have taken the earliest opportunity of announcing to you so desirable an event.

But when I mention that at the very first encounter with the enemy, under circumstances, as regarded the treatment of the wounded, the most favourable that could happen in an enemy's country, the action being speedily concluded, most decided, and the army being in close proximity to its fleet—when I mention that all was confusion, that there was no system, no ambulance, scarcely one thing, in short, that was necessary to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded beyond the barest supplies that could be carried in a regimental pair of panniers, and one or two ill-constructed scabes picked up by accident in the country, you will readily understand why I hesitated to write. I was literally ashamed to do so; the rather, as the contrast exhibited in the systematic arrangements of our allies was so forcibly apparent.

The action at Alma lasted about two hours and a half on the part of the British, and was concluded shortly after 4 o'clock, p.m. The first wounded fell on the summit of the line of hills to the north, and increased in number as the troops descended the declivity which led down to the valley. Many were scattered over the valley itself, by the sides of the river, and for about two miles over the ground on the opposite heights. I need not now speak of the numbers who fell, nor of the shower of grape and round shot which they encountered; all will have been fully made known before this reaches you.

The first collections of wounded were made on the plain, a short distance in rear of that part where the ground began to slope downwards toward the valley. Here were established what might be styled the Divisional Field Hospitals. The wounded were brought on the regimental stretchers, eight or ten of which had been carried by the bandsmen of each regiment during the march from the place of landing. These stretchers, which consist of strong canvas, stretched between two long poles, are convenient enough for this use, if the distance over which the wounded have to be carried be not far, or if there are sufficient men employed to relieve the bearers from time to time. Otherwise, as the weight to be supported presses heavily on the arms of the two men carrying the stretcher, they soon become fatigued, march slowly, and occasionally have to halt altogether. A considerable time is thus consumed in the conveyance of the wounded men. Besides, these machines have no cover to protect from sun or rain. To convey the wounded quickly from the field to a spring-waggon, placed conveniently near, is their legitimate use; and for this purpose they were ostensibly brought. This double benefit would arise if they were thus employed: that the wounded would be quickly carried to a place of better shelter, and that the bearers in going back with only the weight of the empty stretcher would be enabled to bring away the next wounded they met with renewed alacrity. But as no spring-waggons were brought by us, there was no resource but to carry the wounded all the way on the stretchers; and as these were very few, when compared with the number of wounded in some regiments, their removal from the field was proportionably delayed. In fact, the stretchers were so much occupied with the wounded who fell on the south side of the river, that, with very few exceptions, they had no opportunity of attending to those who fell as the regiments advanced up the heights; and during the short interval of daylight which remained after the battle, parties were sent out from different regiments to place the wounded in groups together. These groups were detached in several places—even the wounded of the same corps—for the men who were collecting them were told by the officer commanding one party to deposit them in one place; and by other officers men similarly engaged were desired to collect them elsewhere. There had been no sign made known by which the position of a general hospital, when established, might be recognised. Hence arose a number of field hospitals, as they might be called, so that it became impossible for a regimental surgeon, whose attention was devoted to one group, to make provision even for attendance upon others. The will of this was that sometimes more pressing cases, because not seen, were neglected; while others, less urgent, received attention. Some great-coats from the dead, and blankets picked up over the field, were brought as a covering for the night for these scattered parties of wounded, and the several regiments, as soon as cooking could be accomplished, sent them some rations.

The wounded at the divisional hospitals were in some degree better off, for a few medical comforts were obtained for their use from the purveyor's stable stores; but as these stores were exceedingly limited in quantity, and future emergencies had to be considered, the supply had to be dealt out with a very sparing hand. Moreover, none but the ordinary camp cooking utensils, which had generally dwindled to the men's canteens, the camp kettles having been nearly all shot or thrown away as too burdensome to carry, were to be obtained; there was no hospital canteen equipment. A very limited proportion of the wounded officers was accommodated in some bell or Portuguese tents; but the greater part of them, and all the men, were compelled to lie on the plain all night, with no other covering than the great coats and blankets which could be scanned for the purpose. On the afternoon of the 21st, by means of commissariat mules, and by the aid of some of the Royal Marine Artillerymen, who brought cots and hammocks from the fleet, the officers and a part of the wounded men were removed to the transports. A considerable number, however, could not obtain conveyance, and had to pass another night in this dreary situation — worse in this respect than on the previous night, that, from the purveyor's stores having advanced, and from it being supposed that arrangements had been made for the removal of all on board ship, the greater part were left the whole evening and night without needful comforts, without even ordinary rations or sufficient water. Moreover, being now at some distance in rear of the army, and without any guard or protection, it was not at all improbable that they might have become a prey to some reconnoitering party of Cossacks. I heard the naval medical officer, who superintended the removal of the wounded on board ship, state that this exposure could have been avoided without any difficulty, had the offer which he made, to supply a considerably larger number of hammocks and men from the fleet, not been declined.

On going down to the river Alma, to the right of the road, and some little distance before reaching the bridge, was an inferior one-story house, consisting of two dirty apartments and a sort of stercbarn adjoining. The storehouse was filled with Russian prisoners, and over them were two sentries from a guard established in a vineyard by the side of the house. In rear of the house was a large stable-yard. Into this yard, which was entered by a gateway large enough for a cart to pass through, the English and Russian wounded were brought, until the ground was so covered that no space could be found for more. Others were then laid on the ground in front of the house, for the rooms occupied by the prisoners were too dark and too filthy to be made use of. This was dignified by the name of the General Hospital. The fact was only made known by oral communication. No distinguishing sign, or inscription, marked its use; and it was no wonder that some were not at first able to discover the "General Hospital," when around could be seen many other houses with external pretensions at any rate to more fitness for such an establishment.

The scene in this yard it would be painful to dwell upon, and I will not do so. Suffice it to say, that from morning dawn to sunset surgical operations were proceeding on all sides. The soldier who had just had a limb amputated lay next to the one who was then the subject of some similar operation; and next to him again was another waiting for his turn, constantly entreating that that turn might arrive soon, and so on over the whole yard. Every operation was performed on the ground, and the postures of the operator, almost as much as their labours, were a source of serious inhumanness and fatigue. Active as the surgeons were, it was impossible that they could keep pace with the demand on their exertions; for when the time came that those who had been dressed could be removed to the ships, their places were at once occupied by others who were only then brought in from the field. Thus it went on till darkness came, and so it continued the following day [the 22nd] till about 5 p.m., when all the English having been attended to were gone to the ships, and none but wounded Russians remained in the yard.

I would not have even alluded to this scene were it not to remark that throughout the whole was apparent a want of system which it would be well to avoid in future. One object appeared uppermost on the part of the higher authorities—to hurry the wounded as rapidly as possible to the ships. There was no store of the various needful surgical and medical materials which should be attached to a general hospital. The supply of chloroform was most limited. One surgeon was borrowing from another's small pannier stock—originally only eight ounces for each regiment—when he could ill spare the loan. There was no regular cauldron for general purposes. The rations of the wounded were brought down wounded from their regiments, and it was disgusting to see, in many instances, the meat rations, which they had no means of turning to use if they had wished, laid down and left by their side. At night the sick were left without a light, and not even a half-eye or horn lantern could be obtained to steer a way among the sufferers.

Now, as to the ambulance waggons and hospital conveyance and store carts, respecting the fitness of which for service you will no doubt have heard many conflicting reports, and which had been calculated to provide for the necessities I have attempted to describe, I will only write what I myself have seen of them. First as to the waggons, each of which is capable of carrying ten wounded, four lying at full length, six in a sitting posture. I do not remember having heard any other objection to these than that they required too many horses to draw them. I saw these waggons in use in Bulgaria, drawn by six mules evidently unused to their harness and to the arrangements made for their draught, with drivers in a state apparently more desperate removed from soberness, going down most steep and break-neck descents, along roads that must have been chiefly made by winter torrents, that were at the time covered with fragments of rock, filled with holes, occasionally worn by crossing streams of water. I was surprised at seeing them preserve their balance under such circumstances, and thought of the value they would be when brought more fully into use in the service. I have not, extreme as it may appear, exaggerated the condition of the roads I allude to. No hospital carts were with the waggons. I only saw one of them, and it was then going steadily enough over smooth ground; but as this was about twelve miles from Varna, it must have passed over some bad road to have reached the spot where I saw it. The store waggon I have not seen. Such being the roads on which the ambulance waggons and carts were able to be used in Bulgaria—what roads would they have had to pass over in the Crimea? Why, from the place of landing near Kosloi to Sebastopol itself, almost with the sole exception of the descents into one or two of the valleys, the roads have been excellent, and the greater part of the ground which the troops have passed over has consisted of a series of plains, undulating so gradually as to appear at any given spot as level as a bowling green. Heavy field batteries have come without accident; springless, ill-made arabas have come. Say that the state of the roads in this part of the Crimea was not previously known—although there must have been very fair information on the subject in high quarters; but when it was known that the ambulance materiel was necessary for carrying the wounded, for their surgical care and medical treatment, for light and for purposes of cooking—was it not worth the experiment? The drunken propensities of the men of the ambulance corps, if so general as has been represented, could not have been gratified to any dangerous extent, because the only spirit they could obtain would be the daily ration of rum—a moderate allowance to a regular toper. The regimental surgeons were not permitted to have the means of carrying any of their regimental establishment of medicines or utensils—nothing beyond the two panniers; and it was natural, therefore, to expect that arrangements would be made for an efficient supply of what was necessary elsewhere. But no negligence has been the care of the sick in our army, that when—as is notorious, for they could not but be seen—general and staff officers could appropriate arabas for the conveyance of private baggage, no carts whatever were told off for the conveyance of the men who fell sick by the side of the road. They were left to follow, as they best could, to rejoin their regiments, or were dependent on the accidental spare room in some commissariat arabas in the rear, and on the commiseration of those who accompanied them.

The transports to receive the wounded were equally unprovided. A great amount of suffering existed in these vessels which could have been avoided by previous arrangement. To such an extent was it that some of the wounded who applied for relief to surgeons first sent on board and found none, openly told them they were being sacrificed—and that in terms more plain and grating to the ear and heart than what I now use. Take the Arthur the Great, for example,—in this large transport considerably upwards of four hundred wounded were placed between noon of the 21st and midnight. As they were brought in they were laid together on the bare deck below, above and on every side, as close as space would allow: until at the close of the day the air of the ship became offensive from the exhalations of this crowd of mangled men, a very great part of whom were deprived of the power of moving about. No beds, no pillows, nothing to break the hardness of the wooden deck had been put on board. Not even the utensils the most absolutely necessary for decency and cleanliness had been provided, and the surgeons first in charge were reduced to such an emergency that they had to order empty bottles from the cuddy and the men's own pouches to be used as substitutes. No medicines were on board but those in the ship's chest, and the captain naturally looked with a jealous eye at these being taken, because he saw the number around to consume, and his natural feelings led him to think of his own crew and their probable future necessities. No cooks had been sent before to prepare the necessary ailments—the arrowroot, the tea, the little comforts which not merely the sick pauper in the union house, but even the wounded beggar by the roadside, would get in England. Recollect, too, that this occurred the day after the battle. But was it not known long before that the enemy's entrenched position at Alma was to be stormed, and that in storming there must be wounded? Then, why not equally "there must be" all that was requisite for the cure of the wounded, whatever opposition might be offered to bringing ambulances or stores; or else the alternative of giving up place and its responsibilities, of sacrificing anticipated honours for the more satisfactory reward of a saddened conscience.

The director-general sent out a numerous body of surgeons. Many of them have succumbed to climate, disease, and hard labour in Bulgaria and elsewhere, and the number has been very considerably diminished. Enough, however, remained, with proper organisation—more especially if the offer of assistance from the fleet had been as frankly and fully accepted as it was offered—to have done the required work as it ought to have been done. But organisation there was none. The regimental surgeon who had four or five wounded, when they were attended to, went to his regiment for shelter; the surgeon who had twenty times five or upwards to attend to did the best he could himself, or got assistance from any of his neighbours who were willing to give the required time and aid. Not that there were not many most willing assistants as long as work was to be done, but there was none of that systematic proceeding which would have rendered their services much more effective. So great was the loss in some particular regiments that every surgeon and assistant surgeon of the brigade or division to which they belonged

Treatment of the Wounded after the Battle of the Alma.

should have been set to work in a regulated manner, one or two assistant surgeons only remaining with the troops in camp. We should not then have had, as we did have, instances of men remaining two days with their wounds unattended to.

Suffering is as inseparable from war as are the wounds and injuries which are the necessary result of it. Judicious generalship may diminish the extent of this evil, but the evil itself must continue. Civilization and humanity, however, demanded that as our wounded heroes fell—and their deeds gave them title to the name—arrangements should have been made for their speedy removal from the field; for their reception into some tents or places having protection to the name of a hospital; and that at that hospital the necessary attendance and solace, the necessary utensils and medicaments, should have been ready and available for immediate use. The people of England expected all this would have been done at Alma, or wherever else their brethren and sons fell; nay, more, through their representatives and through the proper department, they made great efforts that it should be done; but it is sad to relate that so far their hopes have been frustrated and their money wasted. To this I call as witnesses the surgeons of the army and navy who were present after the action at Alma, and who will describe what they know and saw. Let the wounded themselves be witnesses. "The dead tell no tales." I heard one soldier also say, "The dead get no pensions." Whether the experience dearly bought at Alma will be made proper use of at Sebastopol remains to be seen; for the sake of the good name of my country, I trust it may. There will be time enough and ships enough then. All that will be necessary in addition will be proper method and conduct of affairs in those who have the authority and means under control.

If you think proper to make public the contents of this letter do so. A high professional authority in England not long since wrote a letter on this very subject, which attracted much attention. It is painful to me to write what I have written, showing that that letter has not been followed by the benefit expected. Painful I know it must be to you and others to read it, but out of evil often comes good, and my hope is that a gain in this instance may follow another verification of the adage.

P.S.—Two ambulance waggons for each division, one for the cavalry and one for head-quarters, in all twelve, have arrived at Balaklava. One hospital conveyance cart has also come, so that after all these vehicles are to be turned to account.

Army Surgeons in the Crimea.
Lord Raglan's Gen. Order of Oct. 11th 1854.

THE ARMY SURGEONS.

Lord Raglan's "General Order" to the medical officers in the Crimea has been by most people regarded as a rather unhandsome attempt to shift to their shoulders blame which ought to have been borne by others. It may be remarked here that Lord Raglan is not singular among military and naval authorities in displaying a supercilious injustice to the medical officers. How long and with how little effect has a struggle been made to obtain proper accommodation for surgeons on board men-of-war? What has been the conduct of the Lieutenant of the Tiger to his surgeon at Odessa? In what tone are the young puppies of a regimental mess allowed to speak habitually of their regimental surgeon? But there is cruelty, as well as indecorum and injustice in the imputations against the army surgeons thrown out by Lord Raglan. The mismanagement and partialities of the commissariat in the army of the East have pressed more severely upon them than any branch of the service. "The Director-General," it is said, in a remarkable letter on "the treatment of the wounded in the Crimea," which we publish to-day, "sent out a numerous body of surgeons. Many of them succumbed to climate, disease, and hard labour in Bulgaria and elsewhere, and the number has been very considerably diminished." The diminished band has not been supplied with adequate conveyance for the wounded and sick, or their medical and chirurgical stores. "So negligent," says the same writer from whom we have already quoted, "has been the care of the sick in our army, that when—as is notorious, for they could not but be seen—general and staff officers could appropriate arabas for the conveyance of private baggage, no carts whatever were told off for the conveyance of the men who fell sick on the road." The whole letter from which these extracts have been made will well repay perusal. It is the duty of every Englishman, and more especially of every Englishman who has taken part in the recent movements for the relief of the sick and wounded in the army of the East to look to this matter. None admire more than we do the devotedness of the generous women who have gone out to tend the inmates of the hospital at Scutari—none can be more willing to do justice to the liberality with which so many have opened their purses to remedy alleged defects in that institution. But when we read the harrowing details of the systematic neglect of the army surgeons and their patients in the Crimea, it almost looks as if the hospital at Scutari had been made a "herring drag" to turn men off the scent of a great and utterly indefensible wrong. In the name of humanity let the zealous and excellent medical officers of our army and navy be properly supported. In the name of humanity let something be done to supply them with the requisites for lending that efficient aid to the sick and wounded which they are so anxious to do.

See page 19

The Director General's Report on the

The same. Cont.d

MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR THE ARMY OF THE EAST.

Army Medical Department, St. James's-place, Oct. 26, 1854.

Dr. Smith presents his compliments to the editor of the *Daily News*, and as much misapprehension seems to exist as to the sufficiency of medical attendants and of medical stores and supplies with the army and in the hospitals in the East, and as great anxiety has thereby been caused to the relatives of the sick and wounded, he sends the accompanying papers, showing the number of medical officers and the quantity of medicine and hospital stores which have been forwarded from this country at different times since the 24th of February last.

Dr. Smith is aware that it rests with the editor of the *Daily News* to make what use he thinks proper of these documents: they are sent in the hopes that by their assistance he will be able to relieve public anxiety.

MEMORANDUM.

The number of medical officers with the British forces in the East at the time of the battle of the Alma was 376, being one to every 97 of strength. In the Peninsula the number of medical officers was one to every 154 of strength.

At the present seaside there are 50 more medical officers on their way to Constantinople, and 15 more waiting embarkation.

Dr. Smith is happy in being able to state confidentially that the medical officers at Scutari (to between 21 in number) have at their command everything necessary to the treatment of the wounded soldier; hence there is no necessity whatever for any effort being made by the public to send out to Constantinople lint, old linen, &c.

DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM.

The following list of medicines, surgical instruments, surgical materials, medical comforts, hospital stores, and means for the conveyance of sick and wounded, is furnished to enable the medical officers of the army in Turkey—

1st. To ascertain the provision which has been made to meet the wants of sick and wounded, and the material which is, with the army, available for that purpose.

2nd. To report to me, through the Inspector-General of Hospitals, what other articles, if any, may be advantageously added to the supplies which have been forwarded.

Special attention is requested to the carts and waggons which have been furnished for the conveyance of sick and wounded. No doubt many defects will be discovered in both; therefore, the medical officers serving with the army will, in all probability, have an opportunity of improving upon appliances that are known theoretically only to the British army, through practically to the French since 1792, when a supply of light waggons, accompanied by a corps of disciplined attendants, were sent into the field on the recommendation of the late renowned Baron Larrey. But notwithstanding the French have used so long what we are now only beginning to employ, still there is reason to believe much must yet be effected before we shall be able to consider the object in view to have been satisfactorily attained.

Medical officers will, therefore, be pleased to report, through the Inspector-General of Hospitals, whatever defects they may discover in the vehicles which have now been supplied; and also suggest whatever alterations, additions, &c., they may think calculated to render them more suitable and efficient.

ANDREW SMITH, M.D., Director-General,
Army and Ordnance Medical Department.

13, St. James's-place, June 26, 1854.

PERSONNEL.—(STAFF).—1 inspector-general of hospitals, 4 deputy inspectors general of hospitals; 12 staff surgeons of the 1st class; 13 staff surgeons of the 2nd class; 32 staff assistant-surgeons; 1 chief apothecary; 3 dispensers of medicines; 3 purveyors; 6 purveyors' clerks; 2 medical clerks; 1 cutler and his assistant.

PERSONNEL.—(REGIMENTAL).—1 surgeon and 2 assistant-surgeons to each regiment of infantry (600 men); 1 surgeon and 1 assistant-surgeon to every two squadrons of cavalry (300 men); 1 assistant-surgeon to every troop of horse artillery; 1 assistant-surgeon to every field battery; and 1 surgeon Detachment medical department for general duties.

Total number of medical officers, 350.

MATERIEL.—MEDICINES, INSTRUMENTS, &c.

MEDICINES AND MEDICAL MATERIALS.—Acacia, compd., 600lbs.; acid, acetic, 1,000lbs.; do. hydrocyan. dil., 200 oz.; do. hydrochlor., 2c. 2qr. 6st.; do. nitric, 2cwt. 2qr. 6st.; do. nitro-muriat., 200lbs.; do. tartar. crystals., 1,000lbs.; Alcohol, 800lbs.; aloes, 1,000lbs.; alum, 500lbs.; ammoniac, 200lbs.; ammonia hydrochlor., 200lbs.; do. sesquicarb., 1,000lbs.; anodyne, 1,000oz.; antimonials, 1,000lbs.; antimon. potassio-tartrat., 1,000lbs.; camphor, 500lbs.; cantharides, 1,000lbs.; cascarilla, 1,000lbs.; cerate, 1,000lbs.; do. resinæ, 1,000lbs.; chloroform, 1,000oz.; confect. aromat., 500oz.; do. opii, 500lbs.; confect. rosæ 500lbs.; copaiæ, 2,000oz.; creasote, 100; creta præp., 500lbs.; cubebæ, 1,000lbs.; cupri sulph., 250lbs.; cuprum ammoniat., 500lbs.; do. sulphas, 250lbs.; decoct. aloes, 1,000lbs.; do. sarsæ, 1,000lbs.; dover's powder, 1,000lbs.; ether, 1,000lbs.; ext. colocynth. comp., 1,000lbs.; do. gentian, 1,000lbs.; do. hyoscyam., 1,000lbs.; do. jalapæ, 1,000lbs.; do. rhei, 1,000lbs.; do. taraxac., 1,000lbs.; extract belladonnæ, 1,000lbs.; do. conii, 1,000lbs.; do. hyoscyami, 1,000lbs.; do. opii, 1,000lbs.; ferri sulphas, 1,000lbs.; hydrarg. to chlorid., 500oz.; do. chlorid., 1,000lbs.; do. cum creta, 1,000lbs.; do. cum magnes., 1,000lbs.; iodoid., 1,000oz.; ipecacuan. contus., 1,000lbs.; iodoform, 1,000lbs.; lactucar. saponin., 1,000oz.; liquor. ammon., 500lbs.; do. plumbi diacetat., 1,000oz.; do. sodæ chlorinat., 1,000oz.; do. sodæ chlorinat., 1,000oz.; magnesiæ, 1,000lbs.; do. sulphas, 2,000lbs.; do. sulphat. effervesc., 1,000lbs.; morphiæ acetatis, 50oz.; do. hydrochlor., 50oz.; ol. anethi, 500oz.; do. anisi, 500oz.; do. bergamii, 500oz.; do. cajuputi, 500oz.; do. carui, 500oz.; do. caryophyll., 500oz.; do. cassiæ, 500oz.; do. cinnamomi, 500oz.; do. copaibæ, 500oz.; do. crotonis, 500oz.; do. cumini, 500oz.; do. juniperi, 500oz.; do. lavandulæ, 500oz.; do. limonis, 500oz.; do. menthæ piperitæ, 500oz.; do. menthæ viridis, 500oz.; do. myristicæ, 500oz.; do. olivæ, 2,000oz.; do. rosmarini, 500oz.; do. ricini, 1,000lbs.10oz.; do. terebinthinæ, 2,000lbs.; do. tiglii, 10oz.; opii contrit., 500oz.; pilul. aloes cum myrrh., 200oz.; pilul. ex colocynth. comp., 1,000oz.; do. hydrarg., 1,000oz.; do. rhei comp., 500oz.; plumbi acetatis, 500oz.; potassæ acetatis, 200oz.; do. bitrotr. solut., 200oz.; do. citratis, 1,000oz.; pot. kyd. sulphid., 50oz.; potassii iodidi, 500oz.; pulv. antimonial. comp., 500oz.; do. aromat., 500oz.; do. cretæ comp., 1,000oz.; do. ipecacuan. comp., 1,000oz.; do. jalapæ comp., 1,000oz.; quinæ disulphatis, 1,000oz.; quinæ sulphatis, 500oz.; rhei contrit., 1,000oz.; sodæ carbonat., 500oz.; do. phosphat., 500oz.; do. sulphat. exsiccat., 500oz.; spiritus ætheris comp., 1,000oz.; do. ammoniæ, 500oz.; do. camphoræ, 500oz.; do. hydrarg., 1,000oz.; do. lavandulæ comp., 1,000oz.; do. menthæ piperitæ, 500oz.; do. menthæ viridis, 500oz.; do. myristicæ, 500oz.; do. rosmarini, 500oz.; do. vini rectificat., 2,000oz.; do. vini rectificat., 2,000oz.; spongia, 1,000lbs.; sulphur lotum, 1,000lbs.; do. sublimat., 1,000lbs.; tamarindi, 500lbs.; tinct. aconiti, 500oz.; do. aloes, 500oz.; do. aloes et myrrh., 500oz.; do. arnicæ, 500oz.; do. asafœtidæ, 500oz.; do. aurantii, 500oz.; do. benzoes comp., 500oz.; do. cardamom. comp., 500oz.; do. castorei, 500oz.; do. catechu, 500oz.; do. cinnamom., 500oz.; do. colchici, 500oz.; do. colocynth. comp., 500oz.; do. conii, 500oz.; do. digitalis, 500oz.; do. ferri muriatis, 500oz.; do. gentian. comp., 500oz.; do. guaiac. ammoniat., 500oz.; do. hyoscyam., 500oz.; do. jalapæ, 500oz.; do. kino, 500oz.; do. krameriæ, 500oz.; do. lavandulæ comp., 500oz.; do. myrrhæ, 500oz.; do. opii, 500oz.; do. quassiæ, 500oz.; do. rhei, 500oz.; do. rhei comp., 500oz.; do. sarsæ comp., 1,000oz.; do. scillæ, 500oz.; do. senegæ, 500oz.; do. serpentariæ, 500oz.; do. valerianæ, 500oz.; do. zingiberis, 500oz.; unguent. cetacei, 500oz.; do. cupri subsulph., 500oz.; do. hydrarg., 1,000lbs.; do. hydrarg. fort., 500oz.; do. hydrarg. mitius, 1,000lbs.; do. picis liquidæ, 1,000lbs.; do. potassæ iodidi, 500oz.; do. sambuci, 1,000lbs.; do. sulphuris, 1,000lbs.; do. zinci, 500oz.; vinum antimon., 500oz.; do. ipecacuan., 500oz.; do. opii, 500oz.; zinci sulphas, 500oz.; zingiber. contrit., 500oz.

INSTRUMENTS, SURGICAL MATERIALS, &c.—Cantral incasseurs, 32 full sets; do portable, 60 sets; midwifery instruments, 2 sets; pocket instruments, 250 full sets; flutts, 40 sets; do.; cupping instruments, 50 sets; do. scarificators, 50 sets; do. do. bracts, 2 sets; tooth instruments, 25 sets; lancets, cases of 6, 50 sets; do. of 4, 70 sets; bandits, crushed, 50 sets; do. romaine, 1,000; bougies, flexible metallic, 15 cases; catheters, silver, 75; do. female, 50; vaccine points, 24 cases; syringes, pewter ureters, 20 cases; do. glass do., 20 cases; do. elastic penis, 9; do. gravel elysies and pipes, 50; spare pipes for do.; apparatus, hydrocele, 9 cases; do. suspended submersion, 6 cases; 6,000 apparatus for fractured matter, 127; amputating knives, 50; do. saws, 50; conical tourniquets, 500; Mayor's tourniquets, 120; Catlin's, 25; probangs, 144; silver probes, long, 50; do. do. pointed, 100; pocket instruments, 50; bullet forceps, 60; Dupuis's bullet forceps, 100; Reade's do., 50; trusses, 1,000; do. do. spare, 1,000; hand hair-sieves, 6; stethoscopes, 50; thermometers, chemical tests, 50; do. bath, 50; surgeon's sponges, 2,000; bandages, calico, 37,000; do. flannel, 6,000; do. 18-inch, 500; calico for bandages, 20 pieces, each 20 yards; flannel do., 10 do.; elastic material for bandages, 200 yards; spiral steel, 127 yards; porter bottles, 127 do.; brushes, bay, 1,000; do. steel, 150; do. do. double, 50; lead gauging-rods, 100; rope, bread, 120 pieces; do. canvas, 120 pieces; thread for ligatures, 83½; silk for do., 40 do.; spicula, common, 250 sets; do. whalebone for bags, 1,000; do., do. triple, 250 do.; do. do. for spare arm, 100 do.; do. do. flexible, 100 do.; do. Scarpa's wire, 100 yards; do. double isolated pieces, 25; do. Liston's thigh, 50; do. do. for thigh, 6; do. do. for leg, 6; do., do. for fore arm, 5; do. do. for do. do., 5.

* The late Director General, Sir James M'Grigor, Bart., K.C.B., whose sagacity, foresight, and capacity of developing efficient means and arrangements for the welfare and safety of the sick and wounded of an army, and who was, and still is—on account of these and other qualifications he possessed to an unrivalled degree—the admiral of all who desired and yet desire, patients qui mereat fieri, made, whilst he was ahead of the medical department of the army in the Peninsula, repeated efforts to have an ambulance corps, similar to what he saw in use with the French, attached to the British force, but without success. I feel it imperative on me to state this fact, and further to record that the army now in Turkey, and which her Majesty's Government has permitted me to supply in the most liberal manner with everything likely to prove advantageous to the interests of such sick and wounded as may occur, has actually been furnished with many of the most important articles at the recommendation of my venerated predecessor, who, though in the eighty-fourth year of his age, has afforded me during the last four months, the advantage of his fifty-eight years experience in the public service, and so made me feel more at ease under the important and responsible duties I had to discharge than otherwise I should have done.

† During the Peninsular war rather more than one-third, but not quite one-half, of the medical officers of the army were generally inefficient from sickness, &c.; therefore, as there is no reason to expect less disease will occur in Turkey, there must be, in addition to the above, a reserve of 50 medical officers to supply the places of such as become unfit for duty.

barks, thigh splints, 25; saw blags, 100; spra'ns, spreading, 30; pot spatulas, 6; bone knives, 50; sack covers, 20; amputation scissors, 10; trunk waistcoats, 60; fracture cradles, 100; tramp cots, 300; do. pillows, 1,100; crutches, 220 pairs; 2 in. narrow sheath square pinpointed bistos, 12 doz; 4 oz. do. do., 12; 6 oz. do. do., 6 doz; 1 oz. pinpointed bottles, 6 do.; 2 oz. do., 6 do.; 4 oz. do., 6 do.; 1 oz wide mouth vials, 6 do.; 2 oz do., 6 do.; 4 oz do., 6 do.; 8 oz do. syringe, 6 do.; India rubber, air or water bed, 1; Nasmith shaped water cushions, 20; Lucas do. do., 20; circular, do. do., 20, crescent shaped air do., 11; square air cushions, 20; circular air do., 20; divided do. 9; Bell, Taylor's, do. second; do. Brown's fine do. second, 2,000's; surgeon's saw, 3,000's; oil linen sheets, 300; skins of leather, 800; prepared lamb for fomentations, 20; linen sprent with softening pitch, 1,250 yards; calico do. do. 250 yards; oiled cloth, 200 yards; pins, 350 papers; sponge pills, 50 packs; scales and weights, grain, 30 sets; do. ounce, 20 sets; do. pound, 6 sets; do. two pound, 4 sets; do. fourteen pound, 1 set; labels, 30 sets; measures, graduated minim, 20; do. do. do. 120; do. do. pint, 2; do. do. eight oz. 2; do. powder canes, 10; do. ball pots, 10; do. pint, 10; do. quart, 10; isinglass plaster on linen, 100 yards; poplin ointment, 12 packets; balance beams, 50; mortars and pestles, composition, small, 50; do. do., middle sized, 24; do. metal, small, 6; do. iron, small, 3; do. fourteen pound, 1; forceps, composition, 25; cord, lint, 400's; do. tow, 900's; copper decoction pots, quart, 50; paper, wrapping, 3 reams; do. brown, 3 reams; pill boxes, thick, 120 papers; do. paper, 200 papers; horn cups, 60; vials, 4 oz, 50 doz; do. 2 oz, 20 doz; do. 2 oz, 10 doz; bottles, 4 oz. 30 doz; do. 6 oz, 30 doz; do. 8 oz, 30 doz; do. 12 oz, 30 doz; glass funnels, 12; do. eye-baths, 50; shives, 12 gross; gallipots, in sorts, 100 doz; corks, vial, 80 gross; do. pint, 12 gross; do. quart, 6 gross; boxes in sorts, 10 gross; antimis, cowrie, 20; packthread, 400's; bed pans, pewter, 50; flowing cups, 20; wax candles, 20.

Cutlery or Minoteria.—Divisional medicine chests, 3; regimental do., 9; detachment do., 10; field medicine, 60 pairs (each pair of pouches contains the following medicines, surgical materials, &c.:—01 lancinets, 8 oz.; ol. olivæ opt, 8 oz.; tinct., opii, 4 oz.; mist camph, 4 oz.; liq. ammon. fort., 2 oz.; sp. æther. aromat., 2 oz.; tinct. aurantiæ, 4 oz.; [elapse stock, 2]oz.; tinct. ferri mr, 2oz.; chloroform, 8oz.; mist. acac. mucilag., 2oz.; ammon. carb., 4oz.; do. acetatis, potass. tart, 1oz.; ol. ricini, 1oz.; hydrarg. chlorid, 2 oz.; ol. Macbride, pip., 1oz.; creasote, 2 oz.; ext. opii, 2 oz.; antimoni o, 4 oz.; lunaris caustica, 1 oz.; pulv. papaver, liquorice ad, 1 oz.; plast. to basilicæ, 7; ligatures thread 1 oz.; hone cup, 1; wedge-eyed measures, 1; minim, 1; syringe pilled, [steel], hospital book, 1; spiders, 12; linen sheet, 1; adhesive plaster, 4 yards; tow, 3lbs.; oil silk, 1 yard; fine lint, 2 lb 8 oz.; cotton bandages, 50; gallipots 1 doz.; tourniquets, 15; wax taper, 1; needle, 1; quarter scissors, 1 pair; tape, 1 piece; corkscrew, 1; pocket knife, 1; elastic canula, 1; sponges, 6; corks, 3 doz. Boxes of apparatus for fractures and dislocations, 7 (each box containing 2 double inclined planes, pointed thigh splint, arm sling, jointed elbow splint, set of lined splints, do. japanned leg splints, do. wheatstone splints, and description apparatus).

Medical Comforts.—Port wine, 600 doz.; brandy, 300 gal.; preserved meat, of various kinds, 19 cwt.; Horsfall's essence of beef, 10cwt.; sugar, 4,000lbs.; tea, 2,200lbs.; preserved potatoes, 45 cwt; sago, 6 cwt.; arrow root, 6 cwt.; barley, 15 cwt.

Hospital Stores, &c.—Arm, lining, 61; arms, corpora, 21; barrow bag, small, 24; bedding, blank, 4, single, 10,464; do. rugs, 4,332; do. palliasses, 3,202; do. bolster cases, 3,202; do. sheets, white, 13,000; beds or mattresses, hair, 2,040; beds, air, 60; bolsters, 2,040; belts, chelsea, 43,000; bedsteads, wrenches, and trestles, consisting each of two trestles and three boards, 2,500 cots for beds, waterproof, 1,020; baths, tin, slipper baths, 60; bottle, slipper, brass, rubber, 400; do. do. hand, pewter and zinc, 408; bottles for bed bottles, 80; brushes, long scrubbing, 200; do. hand, do. do. 200; do. brushes, long sweeping, 204; do., hand do., 102; do., whitewashing, 200; do., bottle washing, 612; candlesticks, with scuffers, iron, 400 chisel sockets, 1 set; 1 inch, 102; corks, with keys, brass, 1 inch, 102; coppers, 50 gallons, 24; do., 12 do., 102; do., trivets for do., 102; chairs for meat, 102; carts, hand, 4; cups, drinking, one quarts, 912; do., pints, 6,120; dishes, tin, 13 inch, 1,020 drawers, washing, green serge, 2,000; do., do., canvas do., 2,000; do. do., waistcoats do., 2,000; do. do., caps, worsted, 2,000; do. do., flannel caps, 1,020; do. bed stockings, worsted, 1,530 pairs; do. do., slippers, leather, 2,550 pairs; do., frock, white, 1,020; do., canvas gowns, 1,020; do. do., trousers, 2,000; do. do., waistcoat, 2,000; do. do. do., 2,000; fitting machines, 20; funnels, do., 6 inch, 102; do. do., 8 inch, 102; frames, iron close stool, 400; do., hook, 102; gimlets, assorted, 204; handles for brushes and mops, 1,020; hammers, brushes making, 102; hospital canteens of utensils, A.B., including 12 sets of bedding to each, 40 sets; hammers, claw, in cases, 102; knives, sets of 25 pouch, 51; hackbarks, do. 12 do., 51; kettles, assorted tin, 153; do. iron, 7 quarts, two, 102; do. do. do., 102; knives and forks, common, 2,040; do. do., carving, 102; lamps, passage, or warm, 204; lamps, harness, double wick for do., 816; do., nurses wick for do., 2,040; do., hand spindle, 102; lanterns, dark, punched, 1 dozen, assorted, 282; mortis for surgeons canteens, 2,000 yards; mop heads, with sacks, 612; mallets, wood, 51; needles, packing, worsted, 204; do., sewing, do., 2,550; nails, assorted, 51,000; pails or water buckets, 200; pailbricks, with hasp and staples, 200 pans, hot, pewter and zinc, 202; pans, stool, do., 400; do., frying, 51; pointers, 40 pairs; pack saddles, 30; pokeaxe, 50; plates, tin, 1,020; measures, tin, imperial, 1 gallon to 4 gill for oil, 17 sets; do., copper, do. do. for wine, 17 sets; pots, chamber, pewter and zinc, 1,000; pots, earthe, tin, 51; do., tea, 2 pints, 204; do. do., 3 do., 204; do., stewing, pewter and zinc, 1,020; rollers and brushes, wood, 153; sacrepans, tin, sects, 51; screws, iron, 7,650; scales and beams, to weigh 112lbs, 17; do. do., weights for do. 17 sets; do. do. sash boards for do., 17 sets; do. do., to weigh 28 lbs, 51; do. do., weights for do. 51 sets; do. do., fortunius, 51; do. do., weights for do. 51 sets; shovels, 51; spades, 51; saws, hand, weights for do. 51 sets; shovels, 51; spades, 51; saws, hand, 204; screw-drivers, large and middle, 50 boards, 2,000; screw-driver bit, 51; screws, assorted, 3,500; saws (Fortescue) proposed by Mr. Curtois, 40; turpentine, 200; vessels, round, 51; do. sand, 4[51; thread, sewing, 400's; 1020lbs; do. do. whitebrown, 1020s; twine and cord, in three do., 612lbs; tubs, washing, 153; vessels, [51; water bags, India rubber, 120; water desks, painted, 200.

Means for the Conveyance of Wounded from the Field.—Reserve or stretchers, 780; spring carts on two wheels, built according to the directions of Mr. Guthrie, 20; spring waggons on four wheels, 20; Flanders waggons, 6.

In addition to the before-mentioned supply, each corps is provided with a regimental, and with a detachment, medicine chest, each chest amply furnished with medicines and surgical materials, according to the regulations of the service, two with a box of apparatus for fractures and dislocations. The surgeon of the corps has a full set of capital instruments; the senior assistant a portable set; the surgeon and the three assistants each a case of pocket instruments, and a case of lancets; there is likewise, for general use, a set of cupping instruments and a stomach pump.

SECOND SUPPLY, NOW BEING EMBARKED, June, 1854.

Acacia mistrt, 40 lbs; acid, acetic, 40lbs; do. hydrochlor., 80z; do. nitror., 80z; do. sulphuric, 80z; do. tartar, acetic, 2401; æthera sulphuric, 160z; aloes, 80z; ammon., 80z; ammoniac, 80z; annum in hydrochlor, 80z; do. sesquicarb., 40lbs; amyli, 300z; anthemidis, 240z; antimon. potassio-tartr, 80z; aqueæ æthei, 80z; cassiæ ethereal., 1000z; camphor., 140z; carp. alba, 60z; caryi. calamus, 6000z; do. cinnam, 3000z; cerat. resin a, 240z; chloroform, 6000z; confect. aromatic, 960z; do. opii, 1920z; do. rosæ gallicæ, 1920z; copaib., 8640z; creasot, 20z; cretæ ppt., 1920z; cubeb. sextrit., 240z; cupri sulph., 60z; cinchoni. sulphatis, 1000z; do. hydrocy., 60z; do. phosphi, 1000z; do. redacta, 2000z; cathreti. helleborus, 2 oz; do. colocynth. 480z; 240z; do. elaterii, 60z; do. hyoscami, 420z; do. scammonæ, 240z; ferri sulph., 480z; hydrarg. hydrocy., 20oz; do. chlorid., 240z; do. iodid., 240z; do. oxidi rubri, 240z; do. sulphurat. nigri, 60z; do. sulphurat. cinnabaris, 60z; emplas. ammoniac, 60z; do. galbani, 60z; do. opii, 240z; do. saponis, 60z; do. picis burgund, 60z; do. picis cum hydrarg., 60z; do. resinæ, 60z; do. saponis cum hydrarg., 60z; do. thuris, 60z; extract. belladonnæ, 240z; do. colocynth. comp., 240z; do. conii, 60z; do. hyoscami, 420z; do. aconi, 240z; ferri sulph., 480z; do. hydrarg. iodidi, 20oz; do. rhamni, 240z; do. rhei, 240z; do. taraxaci, 240z; do. valerianæ, 240z; do. zingiberis, 240z; farinæ, 240z; ferri et quiniæ citrat., 60z; ferri et ammon. citrat., 60z; ferri et potassi tartrat., 60z; ferri et quiniæ citrat., 60z; ferri et strychniæ citrat., 60z; ferri sulphat. exsicat., 60z; do. ammoniat., 60z; do. et potassi tartrat., 60z; gallæ, 240z; gambir, 240z; gentianæ, 240z; glycyrrhizæ, 240z; do. pulv., 240z; gummi acaciæ, 240z; do. ammoniac, 240z; do. assafœtidæ, 240z; do. galbani, 240z; do. guaiaci, 240z; do. myrrhæ, 240z; do. olibani, 240z; do. opii, 240z; do. resinæ, 240z; do. sagapeni, 240z; do. scammonii, 240z; do. tragacanthæ, 240z; hydrarg. chlorid. mit., 240z; do. cum creta, 240z; do. et ammon. chlorid., 240z; do. et cret. rubri, 120z; iodin, 240z; ipecacuanhæ contr., 240z; jalapæ contr., 240z; iod. potass., 240z; kino, 240z; lupulin, 240z; magnes. carbon., 240z; do. sulphat., 240z; manganesii oxidi nigri, 240z; mannæ, 240z; do. pinastri dissolv., 240z; do. picis, 240z; do. sicc., 240z; do. solve substantiæ, 240z; magnesiæ carbon., 240z; do. sulphat., 240z; morph. acetat., 12z; do. hydrochlor., 12z; do. sulphat., 12z; do. et ammon. phosphat., 24z; do. et potassi et sod., 60z; myrrhæ, 240z; nucis vomicæ, 240z; do. et strychniæ, 240z; do. et strychniæ, 240z; do. liquid, 12z; do. et strychniæ, 120z; do. liquid, 12z; opii pulv., 240z; pepsinæ, 240z; picis liquidæ, 240z; potassæ, 240z; do. et sodæ tartrat., 240z; pulveris aromat., 240z; do. cretæ comp., 240z; do. ipecacuanhæ et opii, 240z; do. jalapæ comp., 240z; do. scammonii comp., 240z; quiniæ disulph., 240z; sinapis alb., 240z; do. nigræ, 240z; sodæ et potassæ tart. (O'Flaherty's), 80z; sanguinæ (pongia, 300; bandages, 15 lacked, 300; sand-cloth, 100 yards; bag frames, 100; bone knives, 24; counter-scissors, 12.

Additional Supply of Medical Comforts.—Port wine, 600 dozen; brandy, 200 gallons; preserved meat, of various kinds, 2720lbs; Horsfall's essence of beef, 1,120lbs; sugar, 7,000lbs; tea, 420lbs; preserved potatoes (Edwards), 1,120lbs; dried do. (Dorsets), 2,800 lbs; sago, 1,000 lbs; arrow root, 1,792lbs; concentrated milk, 980lbs; dirto and sweets, 980lbs; oatmeal, 7840lbs.

FOURTH SUPPLY.

A duplicate of this will be embarked on the 24th inst.

REPORT BY THE MEDICAL INSPECTOR OF THE FRENCH ARMY OF THE EAST.

The Minister of War has also received, from Dr. Levy, Medical-Inspector, at the head of the sanitary department in the army of the East, the following letter:

"Before Sebastopol, Oct. 22.

"Monsieur le Ministre,—I was anxious to ascertain by my own observation the sanitary condition of the army in the Crimea; it is as satisfactory as is compatible with the conditions of war, and the inclemencies which have previously operated on our soldiers.

"The operations of the siege have only yielded, up to the present time, a total of 220 wounded, most of them severely. I am ignorant of the exact number of deaths, but they are not numerous. The divisional ambulances are well appointed, well cared for, well served; there is but one opinion as to their utility. The central ambulance service has been usefully developed; a group of tents, and a barrack for 113 patients, offers on a greater scale than the divisional establishments, a degree of comfort and order which one is almost astonished to meet with at so short a distance from a besieged town.

"In general, all the injuries are progressing favourably, however great their extent or complication; the mortality will be very limited, thanks to the skill of the physicians and the sanitary circumstances which surround the patients.

"An ambulance service has been established at Cape Cheraconese, on the beach, to shelter and afford succour to the sick and wounded till their embarkation. I visited it yesterday, and found only two serious cases—one of remittent fever, the other of a mild kind of cholera.

"The ambulance service for the trenches consists alternately of two superior assistants [aides-majors] from each divisional ambulance, and two from the central ambulance service; they are under the direction of the chiefs of the different ambulances, who have insisted upon being employed in rotation at this exposed post. Their request has been granted, upon my intervention, by the commander-in-chief.

"The position of the besieging army is as favourable as possible. The heights which it occupies present no nucleus of insalubrity; the camps are spacious, provisions abundant; bread and fresh meat are distributed at least one day in three, and they are both of tolerable quality; the wine served out is the best that can be had. The moral condition of the troops is perfect. The ardent solicitude of the commander-in-chief for the comfort of his soldiers; the administrative vigilance which has collected so promptly in a country newly invaded provisions for three months at least; and the intelligent activity of the surgeons, contend with success against the injurious influences of an advanced season and the casualties of war.

"At Varna, where I again inspected the hospitals on the 17th inst., they have been able to dispense with the last tent hospital [at Monastir]. There were are Varna, 1,156 sick, and 1,000 invalids who waited to be embarked for France. At Nagara there were 81 invalids on the 10th. At Gallipoli there were 268 at the same date. At Adrianople there were, on the 1st of October, 10; at the Piræus, 180 [on the 11th]; at Constantinople, 1,729 (on the 12th). These, with the 650 sick in the Crimea, give a total of 4,074 patients in hospital belonging to the army of the East. (Signed) "Michel Levy."

Treatment of the Sick & Wounded of the Army of the East. Chloroform.

MEDICAL ATTENDANCE IN THE ARMY OF THE EAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

CRIMEA, Oct. 31.

SIR,—I have read the reports in the file of *Daily News*, *Times*, and other papers, which have just arrived, respecting the treatment of the wounded and sick of the English army. I have read the able comments on these reports, and can only regret that they have led to an appeal to private liberality, instead of a demand on the government for right and justice. I speak not without knowledge—neither the sick in Bulgaria, nor the wounded in the Crimea, have received their due. As a regimental surgeon, I have scarcely ever made a requisition which has not been either curtailed or refused—as if the medicines and sick comforts I had asked for were for my own private use and consumption. Staff surgeons would approve of the request, but the stove could not in justice to other regiments give me what I knew to be necessary for my own. I have felt degraded at the manner in which I have had to supplicate for the commonest necessary utensils for hospital use—the commonest medicines. I have read long lists of them sent out from England; I have never seen them otherwise than doled out as an unwilling parts with his money. Where they have been hid, where gone to, I cannot tell; they have not been, I know, where they were wanted. Let a public inquiry be made in the matter, so that those who have had charge of patients can speak without fear, and openly; and let the blame fall on those who deserve it—those who are responsible for the absence of proper system and forethought. If the things required were not in the stores, they ought to have been got; the director-general would have sanctioned, the country provided the supply. If they were in stores, they ought to have been ready in places where they were wanted, and given out on the request of those who alone are able to judge what is wanted—those directly in charge of the sick. Compare ours with the arrangements of the French, their divisional ambulances provided with every requisite, their hospitals at Pera for weeks ready with every necessary and comfort. Should there be an inquiry, let it be public; no garbled reports from those whose interest it is to prove that all that has been done has been done excellently well; no official returns, which too often "make the worse appear the better cause," instead of advocating simple truth and faithfulness. In the meantime I would suggest that the public authorities, not private benevolence, should provide for the wants of our wounded. But, if the latter is to be the source of this provision, I advise the kindly-disposed individuals who feel so warmly toward their absent countrymen to look after, by themselves or their agents, the management and distribution of their donations.

A REGIMENTAL SURGEON.

PROFESSOR SYME ON CHLOROFORM IN OPERATIONS.

"Edinburgh, Sept. 29.

"SIR,—In the instructions preparatory for the landing of our army in the Crimea, which have been issued by the principal medical officer and published in the newspapers, it is said:

"'Dr. Hall takes this opportunity of cautioning medical officers against the use of chloroform in the severe shock of serious gunshot wounds, as in these few will survive where it is used.' Not as public opinion, founded, perhaps, on mistaken philanthropy, he knows is against him, he can only caution medical officers, and entreat they will narrowly watch its effects, for, however barbarous it may appear, the smart of the knife is a powerful stimulant, and it is much better to hear a man fael loudly than to see him sink silently into the grave.'

"If this statement were limited in its influence to the particular occasion concerned, it might not require any notice; but as such doctrine, if extensively promulgated without contradiction, would have a far wider range of effect, it seems requisite to state, as the result of long and ample experience in opposition to what Dr. Hall "thinks" on the subject, that chloroform does not increase the danger of operations performed during a state of exhaustion, however extreme; that pain, instead of being "a powerful stimulant," most injuriously exhausts the nervous energy of a weak patient; and that, therefore, so far as the safety of operations may be in question, chloroform proves useful directly in proportion to the severity of the injury or disease and the degree of exhaustion or shock.

"I am, Sir, "JAMES SYME."

CHLOROFORM IN OPERATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR,—As Professor Syme's letter in *The Times* of to-day, however well intended, may give pain to the relatives of our brave soldiers in the Crimea, by raising a suspicion of the judgment of the principal medical authority there on a very important point in military surgery, may I beg permission to state that Mr. Syme's opinion, that "chloroform proves useful directly in proportion to the degree of exhaustion or shock," is in direct opposition to the general opinion of the profession, and the trial usually laid down for the administration of this substance?

Chloroform is a powerful depressant of vital action. Yesterday, at University College Hospital, another victim fell a sacrifice to it; and it is alarming to know that at several of the London hospitals the perfectly safe practice (already extensively adopted in France) of becoming the part with cold previously to its incision is now being substituted for chloroform in a large class of operations.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

Oct. 12. A MILITARY SURGEON.

Journal of the Siege. Oct.r 1854. The same Sort.

This & the following Extracts to Page 27 should have been inserted after Page 34.

INVASION OF THE CRIMEA.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

A JOURNAL FROM THE ENGLISH CAMP.

(FROM ONE OF OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS IN THE CRIMEA.)

The following journal, extending from the 3rd to the 7th of October, is full of interesting details:

Oct. 3. Rode into Balaklava. Just at the entrance into the town passed a dead horse lying unburied, the effluvium most dreadful, but the passers by merely hurry on a little faster or make a slight détour in their course. It is evidently no one's business to bury the carcase. The roads as they narrow into the Balaklava gap become more and more crowded: men going and coming from the ships, and from the various offices of the different departments of the head-quarters, throng the way. Siege guns and ships' guns are being landed. All is activity and bustle save in the deserted shops of the little town itself, the shutters of which still continue fast closed. Very few stores can be obtained from the transports; those which are in the harbour have been nearly drained, and the ships' stewards are taking advantage of the demand and obtaining famine prices with a vengeance for the few eatables and drinkables they can spare.

On returning saw the ambulance establishment of the first division of the French moving off. The main body of this division had moved some hours before, in a direction to the left of the besieging army. The hospital establishment consisted of three large ambulance waggons, 14 hospital and some smaller tents, 20 mules and horses, fitted with a light ironwork folding cradle on each side, in which a patient could either sit or recline at full length, some baggage horses and a couple of arabas, with all the necessary appliances for cooking and for the medical treatment of the sick. The day may perhaps arrive when our own country may arrive at such a pitch of enlightenment as to form some imitation, however humble, of the above establishment; at any rate until such a provision for sick and wounded can be brought where it is required,—that is, with the sick and wounded in the field,—war itself had better be carried on where alone, hitherto, the promised improvements in the treatment of the sick British soldier have existed, in House of Commons returns and on paper.

Oct. 4. Heavy rain last night, but the morning becomes fine. On an application for tents for the troops being made to the General of the light division, a couple of days ago, and the weakened state of the men, and the probability of further sickness being mentioned, the reply was, "Don't raise difficulties." But the difficulty has come in the increased number of sick, and the tents, which are in the transports at Balaklava, are to be brought up. Two tents per company will be issued this afternoon, and others will soon follow.

The 2nd division (Sir De Lacy Evans's) is brought from the left of the line, and is encamped to the right of the light division. The order of the divisions of the British force now is as follows: The 3rd division on the extreme left; the 4th and light divisions succeed; the 2nd on the extreme right. The 1st division is a little in rear of the light and 2nd divisions. The main body of the French army occupies the left of the British force, but a portion of their troops is also to the right, and another in rear of the centre of the British. The Turks are in rear of all, near Balaklava. Communication with the force overlooking Sebastopol and the base of operations at Balaklava is secured by detached bodies of cavalry. In general terms the position of the combined armies may be said to be that of a triangle, the base of which stretches along the hills on the south side of Sebastopol from west to east, while the two sides extend from these points to meet in an angle at Balaklava.

Not far from the light division is an encampment of 500 sailors. They seem highly delighted at getting on shore, and are full of jokes about their becoming soldiers. They work very hard at drawing up the guns, so hard, indeed, that in their zeal they more than once set an axletree on fire. Their songs resounded through the camp last evening, and on going among their tents, one might imagine it to be the encampment of a large pic-nic party. Another encampment of Jack Tars of the same strength remains near Balaklava.

Some shells and round shot thrown from the town, apparently to annoy our pickets, at intervals during the afternoon, but they generally fall harmless. One shell thrown from an earthwork to the south of the town falls unfortunately, and bursts within the lines of the 68th Regiment. One man of the 68th, and and another of the 63rd Regiment, are killed, and two of the 68th are wounded; one of the latter, a sergeant, who was at the time lying in his tent, severely.

Ration of tea discontinued by the commissariat, their stock being exhausted. Coffee issued instead, but in a green state, and as the men have nothing but the lid of their canteens to roast it in, and no means to pound it afterwards but between two stones, the beverage which results is by no means the most palatable or nutritious. At the action of Alma a great number of the camp-kettles, which the men carried behind their pack, were either shot or thrown away, and very few of them can now be mustered. The inconvenience in carrying the camp kettle was more from its position than its weight, extending so far backward, being behind the pack, it caused the man in marching constantly to stoop forward to preserve his balance of gravity, and became very wearying. The great evil of each man cooking his ration in his own canteen is the loss of the soup, which can alone be made where a number of rations can be cooked together in a mess.

Oct. 5.—A considerable body of troops is said to have entered Sebastopol. The strength within the walls or, encamped immediately around is estimated variously from 40,000 to 50,000 men. Parties are observed to be continually leaving the town. They are supposed to be the families of the military, or portions of the civil population.

On ascending a hill in front of the encampment of the fourth division, on the top of which is a quarry, with a quantity of cut stone lying about, and from which a good view of the town and harbour is obtained, a body of Russian troops is observed issuing from the gate on the west side of the town, near to the 50-gun battery, which terminates the loop-holed wall on that side. They throw out their skirmishers and advance along the onset line of hills in a direction towards a point where the French are throwing up some works. The force appears to consist of about 1,500 infantry, and is accompanied with a small body of cavalry and two guns. After advancing about a mile they burn several buildings, the roofs of one or two of which are only just visible from this position, as the houses themselves are on the side of the hill looking towards the sea, and having fired a few rounds in the direction of the French encampment, they retire again. We suppose that the buildings must have interrupted the view from the fortifications towards the French operations, and that their destruction was the objection of the sortie.

Lord Raglan and the head-quarters have quitted Balaklava, and are established in a farmhouse about a mile and a half from it, on the way to the principal camp. The number of deaths is increasing daily at the general hospital and in the town, as may well

be the case, for the very air is pestilential. Lieut. Robert Walmesley, 77th Regiment, died yesterday on board the Medway, lying in harbour, and Staff Surgeon Dr. Mackey died at the general hospital—both of cholera. Two assistant surgeons are now lying dangerously ill, and not expected to recover. Cases are also occurring in camp, where there is a general prevalence of diarrhœa, and low fever and debility.

Oct. 6.—The weather chilly and threatening, but no rain. The *materiel* of the siege train is being collected in two divisions, one to the right of the British line, the other to the left. In the park to the right are this day assembled 18 24-pounders, 12 8-inch guns (of which two are Lancaster's ovals), 10 mortars (five of which are 10-inch, and five are 8¼-inch), and 10 32-pounders, ships' guns, from the Diamond. There are also four furnaces for red-hot shot, rocket-cases, &c. Great difficulty is experienced in obtaining the requisite transport for the shot and shells. The arabas of the country are too weak to carry them. The siege train park to the left of the line, that brought out by the Australia, is also in a forward state. The entrenching and other tools of the sappers and miners are being collected as fast as possible. It is generally understood that no operation on our part will be commenced against the enemy until all the batteries are in a state to open upon them. The Russians are reported to be wondering why we are so long in commencing. In the mean time their working parties are seen at various points throwing up earth works, and busily employed in strengthening the fortifications.

As usual in the afternoon some shots and shell are fired in various directions from the town, but I have not heard of any mischief being effected.

The weather has providentially become finer, and again seems more settled. Had rain fallen, from the looseness of the upper strata of soil, from the declivity and bad state of a great part of the roads, the difficulty of bringing up the guns and siege material would have been increased tenfold. I had forgotten to say that all the hills in this neighbourhood are of a calcareous nature, and that in two of the quarries I have visited the limestone has been of the kind known as oolitic. Walls formed of this stone would not be calculated to resist well an attack of heavy guns.

October 7.—A fine moonlight clear night, and the promise of as fine a day. Just at daybreak, a large force of Russian cavalry and infantry, estimated to be about 6,000 strong, were perceived by a picquet of the 4th Dragoon Guards on the Balaklava road. The alarm was at once given, but the Russians were too numerous, and had surrounded the men of the picquet. All escaped, however, but three, two of whom were wounded by lances, and a third whose fate was unknown, save that he, with the two others, were secured as prisoners by the Russians. Some guns belonging to Captain Maude's battery were quickly brought up, and shots fired, but it is feared that the Russians had by that time retired too far to admit of much execution being done.

We have to regret the death of Major Banner, the senior major of the 93rd Highlanders, to-day from cholera. Although a strong breeze has been blowing all day, and no position could apparently be more bracing and healthy than the heights on which the troops are now placed, yet cases of cholera still occur among both men and officers, and a considerable amount of diarrhœa and debility is prevailing. Major Banner, from his kindly disposition and constant fund of good humour, was a great favourite in the 93rd, and his loss is felt severely.

There has been a remarkable silence on the part of the town to-day; not a shot has been fired. It is generally anticipated that a sortie is intended to-night, and that an attack will be probably made at the same time on our rear. Preparations are being carried out accordingly. They will not interfere, however, with the going out of our working parties, who, as previously arranged, are to commence to-night the necessary engineering operations preparatory to placing the siege guns in position.

We hear that considerable reinforcements have arrived for the French army. Our heavy brigade of cavalry have also arrived, but have experienced a very serious loss in horses killed and disabled during the late gale in the Black Sea. A number of convalescents have also rejoined their regiments from Scutari.

I am now out of paper. I have written this on some that I got out of a Russian house near Balaklava.

A JOURNAL FROM THE ENGLISH CAMP.

(FROM ONE OF OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS IN THE CRIMEA.)

The following journal, extending from the 8th to the evening of the 12th instant, is full of interesting details:

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, Oct. 8.

Working parties from the 2nd brigade of the Light Division went out last night at 7 p.m., about 80 men from each regiment, and broke ground. The night was still and fine, and, although there was a considerable degree of moonlight, they were apparently not observed; at any rate, they were not disturbed in their operations. The ground was rocky and hard, and the work of excavation consequently slow. The men were to work for ten hours, but after six or seven hours' digging, about 4 a.m., they became so tired out as to be almost unable to proceed. In estimating the state of health of the men of this division it must not be forgotten that, being constantly in advance since landing in the Crimea, they have been every night giving outlying picquets and doing outpost duty; and it is not fair to forget this when speaking of the comparative strength in marching and otherwise, of the Guards and Highland brigades, because they, from acting as a support and being in rear, have never hitherto given these duties. For men unpainted with soldiers know that nothing undermines their general strength and power of endurance so much as, in addition to the ordinary duties of the day, exposure to damp, chills, and often-repeated loss of rest at night, especially when combined with that strain on the nerves which necessarily accompanies the alertness required from outposts in an enemy's country. Many of the men of the light division, who have not been so sick as to require hospital treatment, have from this constant wear and tear of body and mind become manifestly weakened, and it cannot arrive that they will recover their former physical condition until the close of the campaign shall give an opportunity of recruitment. There has as yet been no change of position since the first of the month, and this cessation of marching has already benefited the men, notwithstanding the night duties continue of necessity very severe. It will be an improvement in future to divide the entrenching parties into one or two reliefs.

Sir George Brown narrowly escaped being shot last night. About 11 p.m. he was giving some instructions to an officer of the 88th regiment in charge of one of the picquets covering a working party, Lieut.-Colonel Egerton, commanding the 77th regiment, was at the time with him, together with Lieut the Hon. H. Clifford, A.D.C. to Brigadier-General Buller. General Brown and Mr. Clifford were on foot, Colonel Egerton on horseback. The group was suddenly perceived by some men belonging to a picquet of the 19th regiment, from whom they were distant in advance about 400 yards. Imagining that the general and his party were Russians who had come out to reconnoitre, they at once fired; and eighteen or twenty shots were discharged before the mistake was discovered. Fortunately no one was hurt, but one of the balls passed through the sleeve of Mr. Clifford's coat, who was standing by the side of the general. The firing would very probably have attracted the notice of the Russian sentries had it not happened, at the time this occurred, that rather a sharp skirmish was going on to the left, where the French were throwing up some works, and where the Russians were trying to impede them.

About 8 a.m. a round shot is thrown much further forward into the English camp than any which has yet fallen. It passes over the left of the 77th encampment, and falls a short distance from the magazine of the sailors' camp—about 300 yards in rear of the former. The fare run out and carry off the prize, proposing to send it back from whence it came with interest. Though no mischief was done as a matter of precaution, all hands are piped—the boatswain's whistle is now one of the familiar sounds of the camp—and the magazine and its contents are moved farther from the front. The necessary elevation to project this shot, a 68-pounder, so far, is reported to have been obtained by slinging a gun between the foremast and mainmast of the Twelve Apostles, two-decker, which is moored in the harbour-croft. I do not know that this report is true; a sailor told me he has known it to be done in our own service. Perhaps by carrying the vessel over on its side very much, with mechanical aid, the gun might be placed with sufficient obliquity for the purpose. In the course of the morning several round shot fall among the tents of the 2nd brigade of the light division, and there are numerous narrow escapes, but none are injured. Shells are also thrown, but burst short of the lines. The only harm done is a stand of arms being knocked down by a fragment from one of them, and one or two muskets being injured.

At 3 p.m. the troops of the light division are formed in squares for prayers, in front of the camp of the 2nd brigade. There had been a cessation of firing for upwards of two hours previously. Just, however, before the commencement of the service, the discharge of a heavy gun booms in our ears, the usual whiz follows in its wake, and down drops a 68 by the side of the quarter-guard tent, immediately on our right. The warning hint is taken, and the division is moved to the rear, close upon the tents of the first division. Scarcely had the service commenced, when a shell burst almost over the place just quitted: it is scarcely possible, but some must have been struck by the fragments had the troops remained there. The discharge of shot and shell continues, but divine service is not again interrupted. It would almost appear that there was truth in what has several times been suspected, that the Russians have some means of communication as to what is going on in the camp outside. On an eminence between Careening Bay and Harbour Creek is a round tower, not marked in any of the published plans of Sebastopol. Its walls are so white that it is usually known among us as the White Tower. On the top some guns are mounted, which have given a good deal of annoyance to our outposts. Here may always be seen a look-out man, who is constantly observing through a telescope. The high ridge between our position and the valley in which the chief part of Sebastopol lies keeps us completely out of observation; but, from various points in the Balaklava range of mountains in our rear, our movements could be observed with a good glass, and the observations repeated by telegraph, or other signal, to persons stationed for the purpose within the fortifications around the town. The heaviest metal thrown from the fortress has fallen near the camp of the second division, which is lying on the side of a hill to the right of the light division; round shot discharged by 10-inch guns have been picked up there.

Oct. 9. The temperature very cold, and a strong wind blowing from the north. The sky has a hazy wintry aspect, but providentially no rain falls. The arabagees say that we must now expect either a rainy season or, if dry, a low temperature and much wind. The latter is not very pleasant for our occupation and present position, but will be much preferable to the former. The habitual fur coat and cap worn by the inhabitants whom we have met, made either of dressed lamb or sheep skin, and which they usually

put on at night approaches, indicate the weather that may be looked for as the winter sets the advance.

About 11 p.m. last night Lord Raglan passed through the camp of the Light Division, and went to inspect the battery being worked on the north face of the hill in front of the First Brigade. Lord Raglan, who was in plain clothes, dismounted on reaching the ridge, and accompanied by General Brown and some of the staff went down the opposite side on foot. About the same time one of the ship's Lancasters was brought to be placed in the battery alluded to. It was drawn by twelve horses—the weight of the gun is 90 cwt.—and while in motion was accompanied with so much noise from the creaking of the carriage and clanking of the chain parts of the harness, that it was not deemed prudent to carry it over the hill from fear of attracting the enemy's attention. It was expected yesterday that this gun and a four-gun battery of 68-pounders, would have been brought into position during the night and have been worked to-day against the White Tower and ship Twelve Apostles, both of which are causing considerable annoyance. It is now understood that Lord Raglan has determined that this shall not be done, four any battery opened until all of the same parallel are mounted and ready for action. Some heavy shelling from the town commenced about 12 o'clock, and lasted an hour or so; the rest of the night was passed without any interruption.

Soon after daylight the camp of the Second Brigade is moved about 300 yards in rear, closing upon that of the Highland Brigade; this is necessary, to take the tents out of the range of the enemy's guns.

A naval officer states that reinforcements are known to be on their way to join the Russian force in the Crimea by two routes; one, being part of the army of the Caucasus, approaching by Kertch; the other coming by Perekop. In both of these directions the fleet are unable to intercept the Russian troops in their march, on account of the shallowness of the water preventing the near approach by vessels of much draught. The allied army has already taken the precaution to guard against any sudden attack in the rear by throwing up extensive entrenchments; while the French have mounted some batteries on the heights above Balaklava to protect the shipping in the harbour, and to ensure the communication with the sea.

3 p.m. A considerable force is observed in motion on the south side of the hill, which is crowned by the White Tower before mentioned. The force consists of several columns of infantry, some cavalry, and artillery. It is apparently advancing towards our outposts. A turn-out of four of the British divisions is ordered, some artillery are brought in advance, and all is prepared for action. After advancing a short distance the Russian force retires in a direction toward their dockyard buildings, and a short time after our men are dismissed. The White Tower has been very strongly fortified by earthworks since the 1st instant. It is now covered by a battery of sixteen guns, apparently of large calibre. With an ordinary glass the working parties could be observed bustling about the hill like a swarm of bees; and even women have been seen assisting in the occupation by carrying sandbags. Women have also been seen mixed with the working parties at other parts of the fortifications, which the Russians are everywhere strengthening, from the Quarantine Fort all round the town and harbour, as far as Careening Bay. They have not been interrupted in their works; they will no doubt rapidly yield to the heavy pressure which will be brought to bear upon them as soon as our metal is in position. The White Tower itself appears to be of recent construction, and not very strong; and it is anticipated that not many discharges from a small battery, where one of the large Lancaster guns will be mounted to-night, assisted by a few ships' 68 pounders, will be required to effect its complete destruction. At any rate, so commanding is its position as regards the dockyard, harbour, town, and sea batteries, which all lie in front of it, that one of the first and chief parts of the undertaking must be to secure possession of the eminence on which it stands. It is believed that the Second Division, under General Evans, are to have the honour of this task, as soon as the batteries have done their portion of the work.

Two companies of the 90th Regiment, and some men of other corps, arrive from Scutari by the Victoria steam transport. She also brings in tow some sailing transports with 240 chargers and companies' hat horses. About the same number of horses is also brought by another steamer. More of the horses left at Varna are also to be brought up. What does this imply?—a march to the capital, or elsewhere, after Sebastopol is reduced? The arrival

Journal of the Siege. Oct. 1854. The same. Cont.d

of three horses, for which there would appear to be the less use now, as we had supposed ourselves, as travellers would say, arrived at the end of our journey, fuels to much speculation. Perhaps the unbalance will come next.

October 10.—High wind, and severe cold continuing. We congratulate ourselves on having got possession of tents (we have now four tents per company, and one tent for every two or three officers), and regret the absence of our baggage and clothing. However, by making circular ramparts of loose stones round our tents, and heaping up some of the lighter soil round the curtain, we contrive to keep the wind out. Though accustomed to lie out on the open ground, the change to the severe cold is so sudden, and the north wind is so penetrating that it is impossible to avoid being pinched a little by it. Very considerably the Russians did not disturb either the working parties or the camp during the night. It is unaccountable that with all the facilities they possess of observing the positions of the batteries which are in course of construction, and of bringing their guns to bear upon them, they should yet allow our troops to work without making an effort to impede them. Soon after daylight they commence firing shot and shell at the works.

8 p.m.—Incessant firing of shell and round shot the whole day from the town. Some works thrown up for a 10-gun battery, on an eminence in advance of the first brigade of the Light Division, have been especially an object of attack. The firing at this point has never ceased, and the metal discharged has been very heavy. An aide-de-camp attached to the Second Division, who is sent to examine what amount of mischief has been done to the work, returns with information from some men at work in the battery that it has not been struck once. Some few of the shot had fallen near, but for the most part they had dropped considerably in advance of the battery. The firing was not calculated to support the reparation of the Russian gunnery—particularly when it is recollected that their practice was not interrupted by any opposition.

The weather has continued bitterly cold. One blanket served out this evening to each officer, and also to each man who from accident or other cause has lost the blanket before issued to him, is a great boon. In addition to working parties from the Light Division, 1,200 men of the 4th Division are to work to-night at an 18-gun battery, covered by an armed force of nearly 2,000. The covering party in advance receives orders not to yield one inch, whatever force may happen to come out and attempt to attack the works: after firing, they are to receive the enemy at the point of the bayonet.

October 11.—The wind dropped during the night, and the weather became at once more bearable. There is scarcely any breeze now; what there is is coming more from the westward; and all promises a milder and finer day.

There was no cessation during the night to the discharge of artillery from the fortifications of the town, but scarcely any injury has been done, either to the works or the men engaged in them. Judging from the force of the concussion, amount of sound, and the increased distance to which some of the shot are thrown, some of the Russian batteries must have been advanced, or they are using heavier charges of powder. The rush of the shot and shell through the air, with a noise not unlike that of rockets, followed by the peculiar flat dull sound which marks the abrupt termination to their course as they strike the ground—the crash of the bursting shell, accompanied, at high in the air, with a ringing metallic sound—the whiz of the fragments—and the repeated booming of the guns, echoing among the mountains—this is the music to which, the whole of the night, the men worked in the trenches, and the sleepers in camp were lulled to rest.

7 p.m.—The day, as was anticipated, has turned out very fine—a change as beneficial as pleasant. The firing from the town has continued nearly the whole day, but the works have not sustained any important damage. Four fatal injuries have occurred among our men in various parts of the camp, and one officer (Lieutenant Rotherham, 20th regiment) has received a wound in the leg. The Russians have it all their own way at present; it will be our turn soon to begin.

Very large working parties go out to-night.

We have cause to be thankful that the cases of cholera are generally on the decline. Captain A. Maitland of the 79th Highlanders is the last victim of the disease among the officers. He was a particular friend of Dr. Mackenzie, the celebrated Edinburgh surgeon, who came out as an amateur, and attached himself to the 79th, and whose death occurred from the same disease four or five days after the action at Alma. Captain Maitland and Dr. Mackenzie messed together in the field, and the death of the latter appears to have made a serious impression on poor Captain Maitland, from the depressing effect of which he never recovered.

Oct. 12.—Another fine morning; the day becomes sunny and warm.

An occurrence took place last night which disturbed the whole camp, and was nearly leading to the sacrifice of a considerable party of Sappers. A relief of twenty men of this corps, under the command of a sergeant, was making its way about 2 a.m. to some entrenchments which were being thrown up on the Sebastopol side of the hill, nearly in front of the 2nd brigade of the Light Division. The men had not been to the work before; the sergeant alone had received instructions as to the route. After descending the hill for some time, apprehensions arose in the minds of the men that they were advancing too far; but the sergeant felt confident that he was on the right track, and pursued his course with the party. Not long afterwards they came upon a small house, by the side of which was a post and sign-board. The sergeant at once knew that this was not on his route, and quietly gave the word to his men to right-about face. They were then about 500 yards from the walls. They had no sooner turned to retire than a volley of musketry was poured in among them, and this was followed by others in rapid succession. The small party of Sappers, unarmed as they were, had no resource but to scatter among the bushes and rocks, and retire as quickly as possible to gain the lines of their own pinquets. The Russian pinquet, which was in very strong force, and accompanied with artillery, after the first volley, gave a loud cheer. They kept up the cheers for some time after each round of musketry, but did not advance, thinking perhaps that the men which they had driven back by their fire were the advanced guard of some stronger body. As soon as they supposed the Sappers to be out of musket range they brought the guns of their artillery to the front, and fired several rounds in succession towards the direction in which they believed them to be escaping. It is remarkable that neither the sergeant nor any of his party were wounded. They escaped with no other loss than that of their great-coats and calabashes, which they had to throw away. The sergeant soon after the fire was thrown down by his great coat tripping him up, and had to stop while he rid himself of the incumbrance. The fact of none of our men being hit does not speak very favourably for the Russians as marksmen, for when first fired upon our fellows were close upon the muzzles of their pinquet. It would seem as if the Russian pinquet was not quite cool on the occasion. As soon as it could be done with safety one of the English advanced pinquets returned their fire, but the distance probably prevented any execution being done. As soon as the musketry fire was heard in camp, together with the roll of the Russian drums, no doubt existed that the Russians had made a sortie to attack some of the working parties. Nearly the whole of the Light and 4th Division were out either on pinquet duty or as working and covering parties; so much so that in many regiments there were scarcely a dozen men besides the invalids to rally around the colours. The brigades of Guards and Highlanders, and 2nd division, turned out, and a battery of artillery advanced, ready to act as a support if required. The cheering was distinctly heard in camp, and was attributed to some of our own people who were supposed to be making a charge upon the advancing Russians. In the trenches the mistake was equally made of supposing the attack to be in consequence of a sortie upon some works to the left, and it was only after the arrival of the Sappers that the source of the occurrence was discovered.

All the guns of large calibre, including the ships' 68-pounders and Lancaster's, are now in position. The guns of lighter metal—the 32 and 24-pounders and mortars—will be placed without much labour as soon as the necessary works to receive them are thrown up. It is hoped that this may be accomplished after two more nights, so that by daylight on the 14th inst. all the batteries may be prepared to open upon the town. It is even stated that the arrangements are made, on the understanding that this will be done; that about 2 a.m. on that day the fleet will get into position, and commence bombarding, to divert the attention of the Russians, while the final operations in the batteries are being completed. Judging, however, from what remains to be done, it will be well if everything is ready for opening fire on Monday the 16th.

6 p.m.—The day has been a magnificent autumnal day. The working parties go out in great force to-night. The men are in excellent spirits in spite of their fatigues, and all regard this change in the weather as a herald of a successful termination to our labours. The mail is being closed to be forwarded at dawn to-morrow to Balaklava.

March from the Alma to Balaklava. French Account.

The same. cont'd.

Brief remarks on the battle of the Alma.

From the Alma to Balaklava.

JOURNAL OF A FRENCH OFFICER.

The *Constitutionnel* says:—"We are enabled to publish to day a journal kept by an officer of the expedition, of the march of the troops from the Alma to Balaklava. The line pursued by the troops may be traced day by day, and the whole operation, the result of which must be to throw Sebastopol into our hands, while sparing the blood of our brave soldiers may be perfectly understood. This correspondence reached us only last evening, and is the latest direct news received:

"21st Sept.—It results from the papers found in the pocket-book or portfolio of Menschikoff, that he was perfectly well informed as to all that took place at Varna. He wrote to his master 'that he had allowed us to disembark quietly, in order to drive us back into the sea, and that in any case the formidable position on the Alma would at least detain us three weeks.' He added that 'if we forced him at once on the Alma, nothing would remain except to open to us the gates of Sebastopol.' However this may be, his confidence in the lines of the Alma was so great that, according to the report of a prisoner, he horsewhipped the officer who announced to him that General Bosquet had reached the western extremity of the heights. We have spent the day in placing the wounded in the vessels, and in burying the dead. The Russian wounded are treated like ours, and we bury their dead. A Russian haversack or coat alone indicates their grave. It is impossible to be less able than the Russian generals are. It is not the moment to point out their faults, but they arise from radically false ideas as to the employment of different arms in a field of battle. Let us, however, render justice to their soldiers; there were lines of skirmishers of their 53rd regiment who exchanged shots with our Zouaves when only separated from them by small enclosures. I have just walked over the battle field of Alma. It is impossible to imagine a ground better calculated for rifle firing; thickets of vine, vines, gardens surrounded with thick walls, and across this accumulation of obstacle a ravine six or eight yards across and three or four deep, at the bottom of which runs the Alma. Ordinary soldiers might have been stopped there a whole day, but not so the Africans. I believe the brave fellows did not take even ten minutes to cross the ravine. They had, however, before them the Russian soldiers of the Caucasus, that 53rd regiment of which I have spoken, and which had arrived by forced marches from Anapa. The most brilliant episode of the day was beyond all doubt the attack of the 1st division. As soon as the Alma was crossed, the 1st Zouaves, the 1st and 9th Foot Chasseurs, the foreign legion and the 20th and 27th of the line immediately spread over the abrupt sides of the plateau, on the crest of which were at least 10,000 Russians. At first the whole crest of the hill was a mass of fire, and we could not see to return a shot. But in a quarter of an hour the Zouaves reached the enemy's trenches. The Russians then retired behind an eruption which looked like masonry, but turned out to be nothing but a telegraph. Our fellows rushed upon this fortress-signal, Sergeant-Major Fessy planted the colours of his regiment upon it, and fell under a shower of shot which cut the staff of the standard in two. But the victorious eagle was instantly raised up again, and became the rallying point for our battalions. Stupefied by such audacity, the Russians retired, and our artillery coming up from the western point of the plateau, soon converted their retreat into a complete rout. Their pursuit by General Canrobert, the during of the two batteries of the first division, led by Commandant Huguenet, all these last episodes of the brilliant 20th of September will be told you by the official bulletin better than by me. I only account what I saw. The enemy's dead whom I have seen were almost all lying on their breasts. They had that smiling face, which death, when it is instantaneous, generally occasions. I saw a dying man, with his hands clasped, and praying with such fervour that it caused a tear to spring to my eye. The poor wretch handed perhaps that he was about to receive the palm of martyrdom, and he no doubt prayed for his executioner. A sentiment of terror was seen in the eyes of the wounded when we approached them, and they only recovered their confidence after a few minutes, and after we had offered them drink. I heard but one utter a complaint; most expired with saying a word. The English fought, so to speak, a separate battle. We do not know the details of it, but we saw them far off, ascending with regular step a glacis, in which was an entrenchment full of artillery. Never was the contrast between this advance and the supineness of the French more strongly marked. But the two armies are enchanted with each other. In the evening the field of battle was covered with sailors from the fleets, and they displayed almost childish joy.

"22nd.—The embarkation of the wounded, and the burying of the enemy's dead continue. Polish deserters arrive every instant, and announce that the Russian army is completely demoralised.

"23rd.—We passed the Katcha, and encamped on the heights, in a plain from which we may see the defensive works of Sebastopol. A telegraph, which is in the midst of the lacunæ of the Zouaves, has been playing all the evening. 'We must send them news about us,' said the brave Africans, 'since they will not come to ask us for them.'

"24th. Instead of going straight on, we turned to the left, and thus went round Fort Constantine. The town of Sebastopol is nearly open on the land side; what there would be the use of our attacking a fortress which, if the town were taken, could only hold out as a matter of form? After a few hours march we reached the Belbeck, near Ourkoi. It is impossible to picture to one's self a more delicious valley, better arranged plantations, or more abundant vegetation; there is a constant succession of gardens and mansions, parks and charming little villas. The inhabitants are not to be seen, but they have left everything except their cattle and their purses; they had not even time to burn down the fine bridge of Ourkoi. Our men got fruits, grapes worthy of the Promised Land, and mountains emblazon; some Zouaves even have been lucky enough to fill their casteens with excellent wine. I forgot to tell you that since our first march the Russians have been burning down all the villages that we had seen in the horizon. I forget this circumstance, because we are so accustomed to things of the kind that it makes no impression on us. We only found one village intact between the Alma and the Katcha, and it was full of wounded, or rather of dead and dying.

"25th.—We are continuing our wedding march through a remarkably hilly country. It would have been difficult, if not impossible, in bad weather; but we enjoy beautiful sunshine, and people assert that there will be no equinoctial gales this year. We advance very slowly, as the country is unknown to us, and the maps on a small scale, which are all that our prudent adversaries have published, are of no great use. The day, however, has not passed without emotion. We heard cannon in the distance, both on land and sea. On land the English army, engaged on our left, surprised a large convoy destined for Sebastopol, and made fifty prisoners. At sea there was an exchange of cannon shot between the forts on the coast and the two fleets, which no doubt are doubling Cape Chersonnesus. We even heard the whizzing of some shells which the Russians, who are on the other side of the hills, fired at us without seeing us. One of these shells killed near to us the orderly of an English officer. Twelve hours after our departure, at seven o'clock at night, we reached the spot where the English surprised the convoy. Neither horse nor man had had anything to eat or drink since the morning, and there was not a drop of water in this accursed bivouac, where the Russians only left the miserable smell which they exhale even at incredible distances. But, *à la guerre comme à la guerre*, a bit of biscuit, and a drop of the heated water in our canteens, sufficed to restore our strength physically and morally and after some hours sleep we had quite forgotten the privations and fatigues of the preceding day.

"26th.—At eight o'clock, as we were preparing to leave, we heard a distant and prolonged cannonade in the direction of Balaklava. That little place was taken in an attack by sea and land. The English cavalry and sailors made 150 prisoners there—others say 300; at all events they took the garrison of a little fort destined to defend that point of disembarkation, which garrison had surrendered at discretion. We descended by a dusty road, the opposite side of the Tchernaia, which was covered with carts, cases, bale, and articles of all descriptions of the convoy surprised on the previous evening by the English. At one o'clock we reached the extinct in the Tchernaia a little watercourse which flows into the port of Sebastopol, and we went to encamp at the opposite side. There we learned, in addition to the capture of Balaklava, the painful news of the malady and departure of our General-in-Chief, and of his being replaced by the brave General Canrobert.

"27th.—A reconnaissance was made by the 1st and 2nd divisions on Sebastopol. At four o'clock they returned to camp. They approached to within about 4 kilometres (2½ miles) from the town. They only perceived a weak wall without a ditch, about as strong as the octroi wall of Paris. The Russians, however, had thrown up some earthworks to protect the southern suburbs. Lord Raglan is advancing from Cape Chersonnesus towards the place, which may be considered as invested. But the Russian army, about 27,000 strong, has escaped us.

"28th.—After a march of an hour and a half the army is assembled in the rear of Balaklava, and in communication with the fleet. It has received supplies for six days, and to-morrow will be on the heights of Sebastopol."

CONSTANTINOPLE, Sept. 30.

Under this date *La Presse* says:—"The victory of the Alma has been sternly gained. These are no longer our African affairs, says General Thomas, it was a battle as in the days of the first empire. For two hours the Russians were immovable. The ball of projectiles that fell on them made no void in their ranks; the moment a man was struck down, his place was instantly filled up. It was the same immovable force our fathers encamped so often on all the battlefields of the empire, and which made Marshal Ney say, it was not enough to kill a Russian, you must give him a push after to make him fall. But the enemy was obliged to give ground before the rapidity of our movements and the impetuous dash of our intrepid soldiers. The three armies rivalled each other in bravery and boldness, but we must specially mention the 3rd French division, and particularly the Zouaves, the regiment of marines, the English 95th, the Highlanders, and the 23rd Welsh Fusiliers. No language can adequately describe their deeds.

"If we had in front of us the most formidable position, the English had before them the bulk of the Russian army. They marched at slow time up to the enemy with a swim, a coolness perfectly heroic, positively just as if they had fled off before the Queen in Hyde-park. The sustained and well-directed fire of the enemy made, therefore, terrible ravages in their ranks, until the moment they rushed on and charged with the bayonet.

"Our troops, on the contrary, advanced at double quick pace the moment they came within musketrange; many of our soldiers also, the Zouaves the first, threw off their knapsacks, that they might get quicker at the Russians. It is grievous to be obliged to add that a large number of the wounded English are in a nearly hopeless state.

"On the evening of the 20th the Marshal, with all his staff, repaired to the camping ground of the 95th Welsh Fusiliers and the 93th of the line. He wished to shake hands with the brave officers that survived, and kindly congratulate them on the glorious part they had taken in the victory of the Alma.

"It has been remarked that not one Russian officer wore the marks of his rank during the battle; all had put on the soldier's great coat. The measure was ordered by the Emperor himself, who had seen how his officers were picked off at the Danube by the crack marksmen in the Ottoman army. This sort of disguise has given rise to some singular mistakes. The Vulcan had on board General Gaulieff and his nephews, a major, who would have been always treated as a private if a hussar had not revealed his high rank.

"At the French hospital of Pera an identical circumstance occurred. They discovered an officer among the soldiers, and hastened to place him among his brother officers in a special room. According to the regulation for distributing the prisoners, General Gaulieff will be surrendered when cured to the French Admiral. The English have on board the Agamemnon General Tchatchanoff, with several other officers, amongst whom there are two Moldavians.

"As soon as the wounded arrived, Riza Pacha, the Minister of War, sent the chief of his cabinet and one of his secretaries, Yaver Bey and M. Baligot de Beyna, to receive General Thomas and offer their services to the medical staff of the hospital. The Grand Vizier and Reshid Pacha sent also to inquire after the health of the general. The day after Riza Pacha, the Sultan's aide-de-camp, was charged by his Majesty to visit all the French and English hospitals, and Riza Pacha received the same mission.

"They went through and inspected each of the sick wards, anxiously inquiring into the minutest particulars of the service and treatment. They returned astonished at the cleanliness maintained in all our hospitals. The offers made by the Ottoman were most welcome at the English hospital of Gumbi, which was, they say, without beds, medicines, or even medical men. They did not reckon on receiving so many wounded all at once.

INVASION OF THE CRIMEA.

THE MARCH TO BALAKLAVA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP OF BALAKLAVA, CRIMEA, Sept. 29.

I hope you received my last communication with the details of the battle of the Alma, but it was written very hurriedly, and entrusted to the best messenger to be had—by one who is not put upon the staff to report everything *couleur de rose*. Up at daylight, a hasty breakfast snatched, packing my things and gathering rations, then not coming to a halt till near midnight, sleeping on the bare ground, you may easily fancy there is very little opportunity for writing.

In the regiment to which I have attached myself only four officers escaped without being hit, and scarcely a man but had a bullet or two through his clothes. One officer was killed on the field; two have since died. Three, including the colonel, have gone to Scutari severely wounded; 208 men so badly wounded that they have had to be sent away. From cholera and sickness, from fatigue and exposure, others have since been sent to the ships and to hospital, so you may guess how our numbers are lessened.

I take advantage of the halt to-day to send you a longer communication, which I hope will arrive safely.

Sept. 26. The army stirring before daybreak. The vast number of fires in the valley, the more distant disappearing in the morning mists, produces a curious effect when seen from the hills. The Light Division moves at 6 a.m., and descends to the valley on its right. From the irregularity of the ground and the scattered distribution of the several divisions a long time elapses before the force is formed for advancing. Heavy artillery heard at intervals in the direction of Sebastopol. At last, about 8 o'clock, the Rifle brigade throws out the skirmishers to their support, and the Light Division, with its artillery, and the First Division, on its right, move forward together. The other divisions follow. The main road to Sebastopol continues near the coast, and is in excellent order. Signs of cultivation increase, but no houses are seen. The hills are more broken, their summits rounded, and a few trees appear on their sides. The road runs between the hills, and the Light Division marches along the green slope on one side, and the brigades of Guards and Highlanders on the corresponding slope of the opposite side, while the Artillery attached to the two divisions rolls heavily but easily along on the road between the two. The other divisions are close behind, and some are seen ascending, and others descending the successive hills, while a bright sun and clear atmosphere brings out forcibly every colour, and throw a brilliancy over the whole scene. No one could wish for a more magnificent military spectacle, but sad reflections arise on observing the diminished extent of ground covered by some of the regiments forming the Light Division.

The advance has to be carefully conducted, and halts are frequent. These halts render the marching still more fatiguing. Another white, undefined lookout tower comes into view. It stands close to the edge of the cliffs, above which the masts of the large vessels of war as they move along with us, are plainly seen, and appears as if it were originally intended as a Martello tower, the construction of which had been suddenly interrupts. A large body of troops is now seen coming up to our right—the glistening of their bayonets shows that it is the French army, as they always march with them fixed. Both armies soon afterwards form up, and there is a general stop, while a few advance to reconnoitre. The look-out tower is mounted by some others extend, and observe to the left. The position of the armies is now on the edge of the plain, over which they have been

The Typhus should have preceded the typhoids in pages 23 & 27.

From Va Alma to Balaklava. Sept 26 1854

marching; before is a deep valley, and to the right is a small bay of the sea, which extends, smooth and blue, until it is lost in the general ocean beyond. Far off, beyond another mountain ridge, and backed by still higher mountains, can be seen indistinctly a group, different in colour and outline from everything around it. The glass shows that it is a mass of buildings, and the position proves that we are now taking our first view of a portion of the great stronghold of the Euxine, towards which all our efforts are now turned. The reconnoitring has been satisfactory, and the armies descend the steep sides of the mountain. Great labour and dexterity are required in getting down the guns and waggons, but the work is achieved, and all are now passing quietly through the beautiful valley of the Belbeck. Here are fine trees, good comfortable houses, hedges and walls of English neatness, while all around appears to be comfort and plenty. On entering one house a magnificent grand piano of Erard's is open, the music still upon it, and some fair performer appears to have been abruptly disturbed, for a recently plucked peach, and some slight articles of female attire have fallen close to the music-stool. A large house a little distance up the valley is pointed out as belonging to the Governor of the Crimea. This is to be occupied as the head quarters. The main army, however, advances and occupies the hills on the opposite side of the valley—the cavalry, for the sake of the water, remain in the plain. Water parties, and others on ration and other fatigues are sent out, and all return laden with the most delicious fruit and vegetables—grapes, apples, melons, and pears in abundance.

Sept. 25.—Twice during the night was the advanced division alarmed, and aroused to stand to their arms. But no attack followed. Cossacks are said to have been seen in various directions around the camp, but they keep a respectful distance. The army starts early, and for some miles threads its way through intricate and close woods of dwarf oak. Great dexterity, and much information, that could not be derived from ordinary sources, are required to move so large a body of men, with its trains of artillery and commissariat waggons, through such ground. The plan of the expedition is now manifest; the other side of Sebastopol is to be gained, and Balaklava will become the base of operations. It is said that there is only one fort at Balaklava, which can easily be taken on the land side. A perfect communication will then be established between the army and its fleet, and no difficulty experienced in landing the siege guns and stores. For such an event as this the Russians are evidently quite unprepared.

About mid-day the light division comes upon the road which leads from Sebastopol to Simpheropol, the capital of the Crimea. Had the arrival taken place an hour sooner, a large body of the enemy must have fallen into our hands. As it was, the cavalry in advance and a battery of artillery were up in time only to see the rear of a retreating body, supposed to be about a thousand strong. A few rounds were fired, but it did not appear that much execution was done, though great confusion was evidently caused, as shown by the desertion of everything that was not capable of most easy conveyance. Some ammunition waggons left were blown up; the explosion, and the tower of white smoke, which curled in a large cloud upwards, had a fine effect. All regretted that we had been so detained in moving through the woods.

We now moved along a road cut in the precipitous side of the mountain, with a far extending plain at its base. Cartridges and boxes spent in all directions, articles of uniform, military appointments, papers, rations, stores of harness and saddlery, strewed over the road, evidenced the hasty flight of the retreating party from Sebastopol. Rumour said that Prince Menschikoff was himself the chief personage among the fugitives, and that papers of his of importance had been seized. A few Russian soldiers and one or two officers were made prisoners.

The same. Cont.d

It was nearly dark when, having traversed the valley and crossed a well constructed stone bridge, the light division encamped on the hills above a small village; and long after dark masses of troops and commissariat arabas, and baggage ponies with ammunition, and all the stoutern of camp equipage and followers, were still pouring in in the same direction.

Sept. 26.—Another fine morning. Of all the providential advantages with which the English and French armies have been blessed, none perhaps has been greater than the fine dry weather which has continued, with the exception of the first night, ever since the landing of the forces in the Crimea. The first night seemed as if to show to what discomfort, suffering and sickness the invading army might be exposed by bad weather alone. Bivouacking in large open places, without any protection, or any means of counteracting the ill effects of rain and cold, disease must have spread through the ranks and dispirited the whole force. But with the exception of that first night, the temperature has continued warm, the air dry, and in short the weather has been all that could be desired. It is true that cholera has continued among the troops, but the fatigue and continued marching they have necessarily been exposed to, have rendered the comparative small number of cases a matter of surprise rather than otherwise.

After crossing over some hills, and passing two or three Russian villages, the part of the army in advance arrived on a large plain, surrounded by rugged and broken mountains. At the end opposite to that at which the troops entered, could be seen a village, and for a wide distance around, white houses, with vineyards and fields enclosed. Near this village was a narrow opening in the mountains, and in a direction towards this the army moved.

On arriving near the village, the usual halt took place, while the skirmishers and reconnoitring parties advanced. A prisoner had stated that there were 500 Greeks in this position, but that they had no guns. The statement as to their having no guns turned out to be false, for while the commander of the forces and some of his staff were in advance, a short time after the attack commenced, a shell fell only a few yards from the party and burst, fortunately without hurting any one. The chief part of the village before alluded to lay to the right of the mountain opening. The mouth of the gorge itself was wide, but rapidly became narrow. At the entrance, and facing the opening to the right, was a low hill, on which were seen numerous tombs, with their white stone crowns, and to the left a steep isolated conical hill, on the top of which was a small house. The interval between these two hills was filled up by fruit trees and poplars, with here and there a detached house. Beyond was what at first appeared to be a small lake, but which really is a landlocked inlet of the sea, and at the further end of this was the mountain, on the summit of which, with its principal face toward the sea, was the fort of Balaklava.

The Rifles advanced in skirmishing order and took possession of the conical hill and house at the summit, while flanking parties advanced by either the hills to the right and left of the pass. Some of the enemy were seen on the sides and summit of the mountain to the right. Dropping shots were now heard in rapid succession. After a position had been secured, some artillery advanced, and the enemy were soon afterwards seen retreating on the hills, up which the Rifles pursued them. The Light Division were now ordered to leave their packs on the ground and to move forward. The First Brigade took a mountain road to the right, the Second Brigade to the left, of the gorge. Not long elapsed before a regular attack on the fort commenced. The attacking party, assisted by the ships, had in all their own way—the shells from the enemy burst in the air, their shot fell far and wide, and seeing their case hopeless, they, shortly after the commencement of the attack, capitulated. Only one man, a soldier of

The same. Cont.d Sept.r 1854 The same. Cont.d

the 8th, was wounded, and it was doubtful whether the shell, a fragment of which struck him, was not one from our own ships. The garrison, which was much smaller than was expected, was taken as prisoners of war, and the fort occupied by our troops. It was evident that an attack by land had not even been dreamed of; no preparations whatever were made against it, and it is only a matter of surprise that any resistance was made at all by the troops in the fort. The ships now entered the harbour, and great elevation of spirits succeeded the successful opening of communication with our sea stores. To Sir John Burgoyne is generally attributed the plan of this operation.

What with supplies of all sorts left in abundance by the people who had deserted the village, and renewed confidence in the success of the main operation and a speedy conclusion of the war, all the troops are passing a very happy evening around their camp fires.

Sept. 27th.—A cloudy morning, and rain threatening. The French army advancing, and moving towards Balaklava, where the head-quarters of the allied forces is to be established. Met Marshal St. Arnaud coming in, indulging like every one around in eating some of the delicious grapes which abound in the vineyards of this country. Went into the small town—said to be built by the Genoese—of Balaklava. It consists of a few narrow irregular streets and detached houses, rising one above the other up the side of the hill. It presents the usual accompaniments of an eastern town—dirt, verandahs, smell of garlic, narrow filthy lanes, and everywhere evidences of idleness and neglect. But now all was bustle. On a gate here was painted, in large letters, "Head-quarters Commander-in-Chief," there "Adjutant-General," in many places "Commissariat," and persons in every dress and of every department were jostling against each other in the close confined lanes. Parties of sick were pouring in from all regiments to a pleasant looking white building, in a large garden, on the side of the hill, the General Hospital. The English being first-had got the best houses. French regiments were pouring in and encamping near the bay, and on the sides of the hills, in the vineyards, and, in short, everywhere. The little sea inlet itself—the channel of communication with the sea, as it wound between the mountains, being hardly to be distinguished—was filled with transports and steamers. Among these the Agamemnon floated proudly, its length being nearly the same as the width of what still seemed to the eye to be a lake, and its huge sides told of the depth of the water. There was the Caradoc, Lord Raglan's vessel; then the little Swords, its deck covered with grey-coated Russian prisoners. There—one for the French, one for the English—were being constructed, and the beach was covered with arabas, carrying off supplies of tea, sugar, rum, biscuit, and other articles of food from the fleet. One considerable space near the town was occupied by the ambulances and ambulance mules—each mule carrying two comfortable seats or cots, as required—of the French. They were in such numbers, and so manifestly convenient and necessary, that it was impossible not to regret the want of foresight or arrangement on the part of the English authorities, which allowed such a battle to be fought as that of the 20th, without any such an appliance at hand. With all the kindness and care of our brothers of the fleet, how much suffering might have been spared during the five miles' transport from the scene of action to the fleet, had there been proper conveyance, instead of spring-less ill-made arabas! Never will those who witnessed it forget the misery of the poor wounded wretches, officers and men, who on the nights of the 20th and 21st, lay on the cold ground, without any tent or protection from weather, save a great coat and a blanket, and the stained alone can tell what they endured, when their wounds were stiff and their bodies feverish, from the jolting of the cots or hammocks, or the still far worse shaking of the country carts. It must not be forgotten that the French were kind enough, when they knew of our deficiency, to spare us a few of their ambulances, but this was only on the last day of the moving of the wounded to the transports.

Sept. 27, evening.—The English force has been kept in readiness all day to move to the hills, but is still encamped on the plain near the Balaklava gap. The siege guns are being landed. The Russians are said to be in the greatest panic. They are bringing all available guns to protect the side of the fortress on which they know now, but too late, that the chief attack is to be made. It is stated, on good authority, that Prince Menschikoff attempted to cut his throat, but was prevented from executing his purpose by some officers near him. This appears to be very like a ruse by which his master would hardly be taken in. After writing that it would require 80,000 men and three weeks to force his position at Alma, and yet seeing that position—in spite of Russian artillery, and every natural advantage—forced in about a couple of hours by comparatively a handful of men, he may well be driven to despair when he asks himself how he is to appease the wrath and disappointment of the Emperor.

Sept. 28.—The troops are to have a day's halt to wash clothes and rest themselves, while the guns and military stores are landed. For ten days the men and officers have been without tents, constantly on the move and coupled, and, having no change of clothes, it may be easily imagined that both the rest and the washing are urgently necessary. The weather has providentially continued fine in spite of clouds and threatened rain.

INVASION OF THE CRIMEA.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

We gave yesterday the narrative of one of our Special Correspondents in the Crimea, with dates to Oct. 3. We now publish the Journal of another, which will be read with general interest, since it gives the impressions of an Eye-Witness of the scenes described, jotted down on the spot. In this case, also, the dates extend to the 3rd of October.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

ENGLISH CAMP
ON PLAIN NEAR BALAKLAVA.

Sept. 28th.—Another French division arrives and encamps on the plain. The Turkish army also arrives, and pitches its tents on the side of a mountain to the left of the opening into the Balaklava gap. This is the first time the Turkish troops have been seen by the light division of the English, as they have always remained in the rear. They are still in rear of the French. They took no active part in the action of the 20th. Both men and officers have their tents, and the latter march without any incumbrances. They brought horses with them to carry their baggage. Their tents are bell tents like the English and of about the same size, but made of lighter cotton. The mounted officers' tents are distinguished by their larger size. In the French army the men carry their own tents, each man carrying a portion; the officers' tents are carried on mules, one animal being allowed to three officers. They generally consist on service as at present of the small tent known with us as a "patrol" or "bonnet" tent. The English have been alone in this respect, that they have had no tents, and the officers have had to carry their own great coat and blanket, and barrasack of rations. This incumbrance becomes a

great impediment to the officer of a company when the men are in the field or on the line of march, as he must be constantly on the alert, shifting his position, and actively employed in regulating the movements of his company. The English baggage-horses, both private and regimental, had to be left behind at Varna, and the commissariat and staff have absorbed all the arabas which have been pressed or captured in the country.

Half-past 12.—An alarm that a large Russian force has been seen advancing towards us. Lord Raglan hastily leaves his quarters in Balaklava, the French General his tent, and with their respective staff and escorts ride together to the highest point of a mountain across the plain in the direction the enemy is supposed to be approaching. At the same time the cavalry brigade is ordered out, and a battery of artillery, and the light division is ordered under arms. The cavalry and artillery cross the plain and move to the range of mountain on which the group of headquarter staff is still seen. The Lancers alone cross the ridge and are lost to view as they descend on the other side. Nearly two hours are spent in expectation, when the staff are seen to quit their position, and soon afterwards the Lancers re-appear and the cavalry are observed moving toward their encampment. A false alarm: no large force could be found. Some Cossacks had been burning a village and had frightened the inhabitants, and the rumour of there being a Russian army at hand appears to have first spread from them.

It is curious to observe how coolly the French take these matters. They speculated on the probability of fresh Russian troops having arrived in the Crimea, and of their having joined with the army driven from the Alma heights, and as to the route such a force would probably take, but did not strike their tents, and went on cooking and with their ordinary employment, just the same as if no one were even dreaming of an encounter with the enemy being probable. Yet they would have been ready for work quite as soon as their services could be required. With us it is very different: the preparation of the meals is interrupted; folding of great-coats and blankets, and buttoning up, is the only occupation, and that being finished, all remain, almost like statues, until it is fully established that nothing is to be done. These alarms and interruptions to rest have been so frequent day and night in the light division, that what with the consequent fatigue and the necessary exposure from being without tents, and the weight they have had to carry, it has become apparent that both men and officers are fairly knocked up. Without including the great loss in the division from the battle of the 20th, the men sent away to the ships, or to general hospital, have formed a serious number in diminishing its strength. It has not been the extent of ground marched over so much as other circumstances which have tried the men. Every morning at daylight the whole division has formed under arms, and from that time to sunset there has been no cessation of parade duty, marching, or fatigues.

Scarcely an officer remains who is not ailing in some way, and the number of men who have to fall out on the road and afterwards reach their regiments as they best may is daily increasing. On inquiry this would not appear to be the case in other divisions. The Highland brigade is said to be remarkably free from weakly men. Sir Du Lacy Evans's division is also named as being particularly strong and healthy. From the fagged state of the troops of the light division, and a desire which has been expressed by the third and fourth divisions to take a more active part, these two last divisions have been now sent on to advance, and are within sight of Sebastopol. The light division, which is now on the extreme left, having the first, or Duke of Cambridge's division, on its right, it is said, will halt in its present position for three or four days until the siege guns and stores are all landed. This will be a great boon, and of much benefit. As a proof how some of the regiments of this division have dwindled, I may mention one which was nearly 900 strong on landing in Turkey, and has since received a draft from England, the 33rd, or Duke of Wellington's, but which to-day only musters 347 effectives in the field. They suffered severely at Alma heights, having upwards of 80 killed and more than 200 wounded, but the great diminution in number has been owing to disease.

Met Lord Raglan and Gen. Canrobert, with a long cortège and escort, returning from their reconnoitre. One of the French generals' aide-de-camps informs me that Marshal St. Arnaud's life is despaired of. He was attacked by cholera during the night of the 24th—25th inst., near the Belbeck river. He recovered from the immediate attack, but has since continued so debilitated that it is feared he cannot regain sufficient strength to conquer the remains of the disease. The Marshal is at present in Balaklava, and a steamer is waiting to take him to sea, but as the wind was rather high, and he is not a good sailor, it was not thought prudent to remove him. Gen. Canrobert was wounded on the 20th by a piece of a shell, which struck him on the left breast; fortunately, it did not penetrate the flesh, but the effect of the contusion has been such as do deprive him, in a great degree, of the use of his left arm.

Pass the French head-quarters. The tri-coloured flag is now planted in front of the tent of General Canrobert, who has assumed the chief command of the French army. The marshal's four-poled marquee stands by its side, unoccupied, but he has lent it to his successor. The French Commander-in-Chief entertains very liberally, and extensive accommodation is required for him and his suite.

It is difficult to get into the town; the narrow road is so thronged by French and English soldiers,—some going in for commissariat supplies, others coming out laden, and stooping under their burdens. Great junks of salt pork, spitted as it were, on long poles, and carried between men's shoulders—great bags of biscuit, arabas laden with casks of rum, boxes of tea, packages of coffee, sugar, are all in motion towards the camps. Now passes a heavy gun in the same direction, and it is a close squeeze to avoid being crushed to death. Parties are moving to water horses, others seeking wood, and the small plain below the harbour, the sides of the hill—in short, every available spot is alive with soldiers in active employment. All manner of notabilities jostle up against you. The Duke of Cambridge, looking as hale and good humoured as ever, is making on all sides for the quarters of the French Marshal—no doubt to pay a visit of condolence before he leaves. Presently comes along General Canrobert, looking rather haggard and careworn, by no means so brisk and sprightly as when he inspected the Light Division at Aladyn, probably bound on the same errand. He is now attended only by a single aide-de-camp and appears wrapped up in a cloak lined with fur, afraid of exposure to the evening air. Generals on the staff, generals of division, brigadiers, medical officers, and commissaries, soldiers and sailors of every grade—French, English, and Turk—all join in the motley group.

Receive letters up to Sept. 21.

Sept. 29.—The mountains are enveloped in heavy mists, but they gradually roll off, and the day becomes sunny and fine.

About 8 a.m. the 1st brigade of the 3rd division (Prince Napoleon's) passes *en route* to Sebastopol. It is accompanied by some artillery, and a troop of the Chasseurs d'Afrique. They are fine-looking men, well and serviceably dressed, and all mounted on picked barbs. Then follows a train of mules, finer animals than any I have seen in our army, carrying officers' and regimental baggage. A good mule-cart carries the pioneers' tools of the brigade. The French *sapeurs* carry only a hatchet in addition to their regular kit; not like our pioneers, who are overloaded with all the tools necessary for their occupation. General Canrobert and a large staff soon afterwards pass in the same direction.

The French soldier carries a great weight on service—greater than the English soldier. But there is this difference, much that he carries is matter of choice (such as wood for firing, &c.), and all that he carries he knows to be necessary for his protection and comfort. His share of the tent he would not part with on any account. He carries often six days' rations instead of three days' rations which the English officers and soldiers have had to carry, but it is better packed; and his belts and straps are cut to fit the individual, not, as with us, made in such a manner that they appear in one uniform line when the men are in the ranks. As to his shako, and all the ornamental parts of his uniform necessary for *grande tenue*, they are left at home, not brought into the field when they can be little better than incumbrances.

Artillery heard in the direction of Sebastopol.

Half-past 10.—Sudden order for the Light Division to move. The Duke of Cambridge's division (the Guards and Highland Brigade) are to remain quiet at Balaklava for a day or two. Some regiments of cavalry are also to stay in the rear. No important operations can be commenced until the siege guns are landed and brought up. The light division moves forward, crosses the plain winding along the foot of the mountains, and soon begins to ascend in a direction towards Sebastopol. The country becomes more bare, the breeze freshens, the forms are more distant in little hollows, where a slight protection from the wind can be obtained, and in a short time the blue horizon of the sea is stretched before us. To the right, at some distance, can be seen part of the town of Sebastopol. It appears to be built at the bottom of a deep cavity. Some spacious official buildings, and the roofs—some green, some brown—of smaller houses can also be seen. The hulls of two line-of-battle ships in the harbour are visible, and the masts of several others. Another hill is crossed, and a better view of the town and sea is obtained. A vessel, supposed to be the Arrow, with a Lancaster gun, is throwing shell at one of the forts to the left of the harbour, and the fort is returning the fire, but it is evident that the little steamer has the best of it. Behind a round tower, some of the guns of which are pointed toward the land side, and connected with it, is a building not unlike a church or magazine. It has a double inclined roof. On this for a minute or two is seen the white smoke of a bursting shell, the smoke clears away and the roof is gone. With our glasses a number of persons can be seen running out of the house below. Other shells burst high in the air, some strike the earth, but fall short of the wall.

The light division forms into line to the left of the second (General Evans's) division. While in the act of forming three Russian horsemen mount on the ridge nearest to the sea and deliberately survey our position. The horseman in the centre carries a long spear; all three appear to carry swords. They are probably Cossacks. The heads of three or four other men can be seen just above a stone hedge, close to the horsemen. They are just out of musket range. A picket is despatched to take possession of a small house in advance of us, and the horsemen suddenly disappear. The division halts in line for some time, when it is discovered that we are within shelling distance, and it is ordered to retire a short way. Again we are in position. The sun is just setting over the hills to our left. We have seen for some time past the men of General Evans's division bringing in their wood, lighting their fires, cooking their meals, and making themselves as snug as they can for the night. The sun sets, and it becomes as usual rapidly dark, for there is little twilight. Fortunately we have some moonlight for an hour or two. Parties are sent out to search for wood, others go with the cacholetes for water. After wandering some miles in the dusk the water parties return without having been successful. No officer of the quartermaster-general's department shows the direction where water is to be found. They are sent out again, in another route, and it is nearly eleven o'clock, when at last the men come back with the object of their search. People who live in cities, and in whose houses a constant supply of this necessary is always flowing, have little idea of what the suffering is when it cannot be obtained, and how precious it becomes when scarce.

However, it is got at last, some coffee or tea is brewed, and the men prepare to rest for the night. The air is chilly, for there are no clouds—no trees near—the plain is open, at an elevation of perhaps 400 feet above the sea,—but the night is starlight, fine, and dry. The men lie down near their arms, roll their blankets around them, and soon many a dooming sleeper returns to former scenes, and again mixes with old familiar friends, as if no such place as Sebastopol, and no such people as Russians were close by their side or even in existence.

Sept. 30. Rowed during the night. All stand to their arms and are ready for work, but no attack is made. Some pickets of the Rifle Brigade had been driven in by Cossacks. The men lie down again by their arms, and till daylight the remainder of the night is passed in quiet.

A fine sunny morning. In a house near to our position lives an Englishman, who, according to his own account, has been for the last 25 years employed in public works at Sebastopol. His name is Wilde. He states that he has been ill-used by the Russian authorities, who, though he had fulfilled his time of service, refused to give him a pension, but discharged him with a bonus of only one year's pay. He says that part of the retreating army from Alma passed by his house, and destroyed much of his property. He is advanced in years, appears to be deaf, and has a son in the Russian army. He states that he was in Sebastopol a few days since for provisions, that they wished to detain him as a prisoner, but that he was released on condition that he did not attempt to come in again. He asserts that, if we were to make an attack upon the city, we should carry it by assault in four or five hours. Circumstances have led to a suspicion that much of Mr. Wilde's deafness has been assumed, and it is so extraordinary that the Russian authorities should have permitted an Englishman so well acquainted with Sebastopol to remain outside its walls, that a doubt is thrown over every statement he makes.

General Brown is said, also on good authority, with his usual daring and restless activity, to advocate not waiting for the siege guns, but to attack the fortress at once. The time required for landing all the guns, getting them into position, the number of detached forts, the lowness of the wall, which could be easily scaled, or soon breached, the lateness of the season, are arguments used for this plan. The Russians are stated, moreover, to be in a panic. The success of "taking the bull by the horns" at Alma, is quoted in its favour. But the more prudent trust that the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Raglan, is swayed by more heedful motives. What was successful on the heights of Alma, may not succeed against the stronghold of Sebastopol. Already the face of the fortress, in this direction, is discovered to be much more protected, and very much stronger in guns than was anticipated. What mines there are, what covert works, no one knows yet, on this side of the fortress. We trust we shall not have a repetition of the carnage at Alma. It was not as if it were an evident necessity, for there are few who do not admit that had a delay of half an hour or so been made for the enemy's flanks to be turned, before the centre of their position was attacked, the same display of courage and devotion, on the part of the men, would have equally carried all before them then, but with a very different amount in loss of life and numbers of wounded. Nor was it as if the wounded received the care which, as Englishmen, was their due, and which the country thought was provided for them. There were men wounded on the 20th whose wounds were not

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attended to till just before they were hurried on board ship on the 22nd. All the wounded men, and most of the officers, were left to lie in the open air, without any protection from the night dews or heat of the sun, beyond a blanket. No hospital marquees, no regimental medical stores beyond the two surgical panniers were allowed to be brought from the transports when the regiments landed in the Crimea. Every operation had to be performed on the bare ground, with the wounded wretches, whose turns were to follow, lying around. There was not a single ambulance car or waggon, save three or four the French lent us on the 22nd." Many of the wounded, whose wounds had been attended to, but who were beyond the number which could be carried by the country carts, or by the marine artillerymen sent from the fleet on the 21st, were still left to lie in the open air till they could be removed the next day. Vain were their cries for water or assistance during the dark hours, for not a lantern could be procured to light the way among the poor wretches. Medical officers of divisions and the regimental surgeons did all they could to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded, but without proper stores or appliances their efforts were in many respects thwarted. Instead of, as was expected, the science of surgery being illustrated, or receiving improvement, in the treatment of these victims of war, all the medical officers with whom I have spoken agree that there were neither means nor time to attend to any but the most obvious exigencies of each case. The whole treatment of our wounded has been dreadful, and would be disgraceful to any nation calling itself civilized. I write this most emphatically and with deliberation. We speak of the Russians as barbarians: at the same time it will be asserted that one of the reasons why they left so few wounded on the field was the excellence of their ambulance arrangements. A searching inquiry should be made into this subject. Staff surgeons attached to brigades, regimental surgeons, and the wounded themselves, should be the witnesses—not heads of departments who have other interests, besides that of simple truth, at stake. Nor should statistical returns be taken in evidence; all who are acquainted with the getting up of these know what they are worth, for they know how they may be cooked for the public eye, and how much valuable time and neglected substantial necessities are constantly sacrificed for them. "Returns" are one of the curses of this army—there is no evil which, it would appear, cannot be smothered by them. Were such an inquiry as I allude to instituted, horrors would be unfolded that would startle you; the more startling, because, at this age, the less expected, and because they ought not to have been. We do not want any more of such scenes, at least until we are better prepared for them. Some military men will still sneer at such remarks, and say, "Oh! there must be a certain loss of life, and amount of wounds and suffering in every action, and really the time and attention necessary to lessen these had better be devoted to matters more important as regards the ultimate success." Then why so much talk about improvements in surgery? Better go back altogether to the "old school," as it is called. Plenty of stores may have been sent from London, but they were not ready in the Crimea.

A Russian prisoner is brought in from the telegraph station—a fine-looking man. He turns out to be an underling, without the power of giving any useful information. There was another English *compagnie* in the Russian service made a prisoner the other day, and still continues so. His name is Upton; he has been employed in the dockyard service. He stated that such was the panic of the Russians after the storming of Alma, that had we had cavalry, and been able to pursue them, the whole force might have been destroyed, or Sebastopol itself even entered with the retreating troops.

The enemy having observed a picket of the 90th in a white house, placed in rather a commanding position on a hill, fired some round shots at it. Their practice is good, but neither the house nor any of the picket is hurt.

5 p.m.—The light division is ordered to move. Everything is packed, the men are in heavy marching order. It is understood we are to move from this—the left of the British line—and to be placed in rear of the fourth division, on the right of the line; the French to take our place, and to occupy the left of the army.

Half-past 5 p.m.—The light division ordered not to move. This is quite as well, as the sun has set, and it is dusk.

October 1, half-past 1, a.m.—Firing heard both from the sea and town. It lasts about half an hour, and all is quiet again.

Under arms at daylight, and march at 7 a.m. In consequence of two deep ravines the light division has to march about seven miles to get round and take up its position on the extreme right of the British force. Pass through the encampments of the 1st and 2nd divisions of the French. The 11th Hussars are brought a little in rear of us, together with the battery attached to the division; excepting for this support and our own outposts, we are open to the country. A high road, with regular distance posts, passes through our line to Sebastopol. We are now placed in rear of the city.

On ascending a ridge parallel with our line, and protecting us from the observation of the enemy's videttes, and also from shot from the fortifications, a small, neat house is seen, with a flower and vegetable garden. It has been originally occupied by some gentleman, as evidenced by a rosewood cardtable and a couple of chairs with satin seats, but lately has been a barrack for an outpost of the enemy. They have retreated in haste, and left a quantity of pickaxes and entrenching tools, intrenchments, firewood, and other military stores. From this house a magnificent view of the harbour and fortifications is obtained. The day is clear, and every gun in the ships, and in the fortifications, can be counted. A little steamer is actively plying backwards and forwards in the harbour. On the hill, around the round tower on the opposite side of the town, hundreds of men are employed in throwing up earth-works. It appears as if this house was expected to be occupied by us, for a three-decker in the harbour is so moored that all the guns could be brought to bear upon the side of the hill which leads from the house down to the town.

Half-past 2.—Some shells fired in our direction, but they all fall short.

October 2.—Shelling continued from the town towards our position, and also against a working party on a neighbouring hill, where preparations are being made for mounting some heavy guns. Forty-two of our large guns and mortars are now stated to be in position. The French are not so advanced. Some large guns it is known have been taken out of Sebastopol, but their destination is not known.

The First Division (Guards and Highlanders) come up from Balaklava, and take up their position in rear of the Light Division to act as a support. It is now understood that the attack on the city, when the breaches are effected, is to be made on the left by the French, and by the 4th Division of the English—on the right by the British Light division in advance, and the first division. If the Russians make much resistance, there will be severe loss of life, for the ground is so rocky that regular approaches cannot be made. We must therefore trust to our batteries, and to the courage and determination of the men on whose will fall the duty of rushing the assault. What a grievous pity that we had not arrived a month earlier!

October 3. Not disturbed last night. Another glorious morning—the atmosphere clear and sunny as a diamond. God grant, for the sake of the troops, that such weather may still continue for a week or two. It is generally supposed that the bombardment will be commenced about Friday next the 6th instant.

INVASION OF THE CRIMEA.

JOURNAL OF THE SIEGE.

(FROM ONE OF OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS IN THE CRIMEA.)

The following detailed account of the siege of Sebastopol appeared in our second edition yesterday:

CONCERTS, &c.

In the early part of the night a stiff breeze got up from the S.W., clouds gathered, and rain threatened. It passed over, however, and subsequently became starlight, clear, and calm. The firing ceased in the batteries on both sides soon after sunset, as if by mutual consent, as far as the English works extend; but some distant cannonading was heard at intervals during the night to the left. The morning is now clear and bright, and the sun's rays powerful. The continuance of this fine weather is a great blessing to the troops in the field. Though there is of course a good deal of fatigue, debility, and a prevalence of bowel complaints, from the continued exposure; instances of cholera and serious disease are daily becoming more rare.

Since writing yesterday I have heard more full particulars of the explosion which occurred near our 21-gun battery at 4 p.m. In this battery both naval guns and guns belonging to the siege-train are mounted. It was not the sailor's magazine which exploded; this was safely stowed away in a hollow in the rock), but a large collection of gunpowder brought up by the Royal Artillery to supply their guns. The contents of three tumbril waggons had been laid on the ground, within a couple of boats previous, and a small portion only of this supply had been used. The waggons, excepting one which had been disabled near the same spot by the bursting of a shell, had left the ground. Three of the horses had also been killed, and were lying near the ammunition. The explosion was caused, it was supposed, by a red-hot shot being thrown among the powder; at least there was no evidence of its being caused by a shell. One artilleryman was killed.

A most providential escape was connected with this explosion. A large covering party of the 90th regiment had only just before quitted the neighbourhood of this exposed magazine on account of the severity of the fire in that direction. Two of the men had just been killed, and two others dangerously wounded—one poor fellow losing at the same moment both legs and an arm by the bursting of a shell which fell among them. The officer in command had therefore moved this party a short distance to a more protected position. There remained, however, close by, another covering party, consisting of four companies of the 19th regiment. Twenty paces only from the ammunition—an officer informed me that he measured the distance—was lying a group of the officers of the 19th; and, extending from them to the right and left, were lying the rest of the men and officers, sheltered by a loose heap of stones from the fire of the enemy's guns. The force of the concussion, the noise of the explosion, and the shower of earth and stones, deprived most of those who were near, for some moments, of consciousness, and for a long time of hearing; and such, as he represented his faculties, seems to have been impressed with the belief that he was the only one saved from the effects of some terrible calamity, of the true nature of which he was quite ignorant. One man only of this regiment was injured by the explosion, and he not dangerously. Their salvation seems to have been owing in some degree to their very proximity. The force of the discharge was chiefly directly upwards. One of the dead horses was carried up in the air, and thrown down thirty or forty yards over and beyond the troops. Portions of the disabled waggon and of the burning wood of the ammunition boxes were thrown for a wide distance round. Nothing remained on the ground where the powder had been laid; but the earth was scored up, and full, mixed with unexploded gunpowder, thickly on all sides. The smoke rose, in perpendicularity upwards in a condensed column; then, unfolding and expanding, it extended outwards, until, meeting a strong current in an upper stratum of air, it floated away like a large fleecy cloud.

There appears to have been carelessness, both in respect to the place in which the ammunition was laid, and the manner in which it was left unprotected and exposed, and an enquiry is being made into the matter by the proper authorities.

9 a.m.—All the batteries opened fire shortly after daybreak, and a rapid cannonade has been kept up, excepting in the 5-gun battery to the right. There is at present a want of ammunition in it, so that a discharge can be kept up only from one gun every five minutes. Many of the enemy's guns are directed against this battery, the four 68-pounders of which did so much execution yesterday against the Round Tower. A shell burst about half an hour ago in the battery, killing one sailor, and disabling three other men. There seems to be much disappointment about the Lancaster guns, one of which is here with the 68-pounders. One of the sailors working it told me he was hoarse with rage at it. The Lancaster gun in the 1-gun battery has not done the execution which was expected; at the same elevation the course of a ball is said to vary considerably in the direction of its flight. The deviation is supposed to be in some way connected with the oval aperture, the long axis of which is from above downwards; because it is in the same direction, and not laterally, that it occurs. Though the position of the gun be unchanged, the ball sometimes falls short, sometimes goes beyond the same object. The force and explosive effects of the shell are not found fault with. The vessel which shifted its position yesterday was a two-decker, which, for some time past, has annoyed the troops by firing up the ravine, extending from the head of the harbour to a spring where our men go to fetch water. The "Twelve Apostles" is still lying across the mouth of the harbour, between Cape Nicholas and Cape Paul battery; and the Lancaster 1-gun battery, though directed against the vessel, has not yet succeeded in effecting her removal. Another Lancaster gun in the large battery in front of the 4th division is reported to have burst, a great portion of the muzzle having been blown away. I have not been able to get a confirmation of the report, but it is generally believed on this side of the camp to be true.

There were 900 heavy shot in the 5-gun battery when we opened fire yesterday morning; of these about 800 were used in the course of the day up to the time when the firing ceased. The Round Tower and the batteries around it show the effect of this cannonade. The upper part of the fort dismantled, its walls defaced and full of large holes, and only one gun able to reply in the battery below; such was the state of the enemy's works on this hill at nightfall. During the night they brought two more guns into play, to the right (our left) of the Tower; and these two, with the one which remained last night, have been at work all the morning. The 5-gun battery, and four guns in the 21-gun battery pointed in the same direction, have not yet been able to silence them. There are now only hollow shot in the 5-gun battery, in addition to those which remain of the heavy shot from yesterday, and these in limited number.

Half-past 9 a.m.—Cannonading heard in our rear, in a direction towards Balaklava. Some of the first division were turned out, ready to act in case of necessity. It was soon known that a large Russian force had approached Balaklava, and sent forward a body of Cossacks to reconnoitre; but these were soon forced to retire by the French guns. With Sir Colin Campbell commanding the troops at Balaklava, and the line of fortifications thrown up by our allies on the right flank, we have little to fear from an attack in that direction.

By the bye, we all breakfasted on the bread sent us as a present by our gallant friends, the French. It was light and excellent, and an agreeable change from our ration biscuit, though this is excellent too. We hope our authorities will be able to return in some fitting way this well-timed act of courtesy.

Soon after 10 a.m. some musket shots were heard to our right, in the direction of a winding ravine, which opens about a mile from the encampment, upon an irregular valley at the foot of the Round Tower hill. These scattered shots were soon followed by the rattle of several volleys. Ten sharpshooters from each regiment, with a proportion of officers, leave every morning, with orders to advance stealthily and approach as near as they can to the enemy's guns so as to annoy by their fire the artillerymen working them. It was presumed that an attack had been made on these, who had in turn fallen back upon our advanced piquets stationed on the sides of the hills flanking the ravine before alluded to.

Information was soon received in camp that a large Russian force had come out from near a building which appears like an old fort, to the proper left of the Round Tower. They had shown themselves only in small parties at a time, with the motive, apparently, of preventing their strength from being

observed. They had brought two guns with them, and from their number and mode of advance, it was evident that their object was not merely to attack our sharpshooters, but also, in all probability, to make an attack on the right flank of Captain Gordon's (the 21-gun) battery. As there was only one picquet between them and the battery, the covering parties being on the opposite side, with courage and sufficient dash they could no doubt have effected this object, and done damage to our guns before we could have succeeded in driving them back.

As soon as it was known that the Russians had made a sortie, the Light Division was ordered under arms, and the 19th and 33rd regiments advanced. They moved in extended order along the slope of the hills rising from the ravine, which divides the encampments of the two regiments, and halted just before reaching the summit—thus keeping out of view of the Russian batteries. Major Norcott was sent up the ravine itself with as many of the men of his wing of the Rifle Brigade as were off duty to assist and support the sharpshooters and outlying pickquets. Meanwhile, the sharpshooters, consisting of men of the 7th, 23rd, and 33rd Regiments, concealing themselves behind small heaps of stones or any available cover, did much execution among the Russians with their Minié rifles. They drove back the two guns after they had fired only three or four rounds. The guns, however, were brought back, and the enemy kept up a continued fire with their small arms. Though in strong force, they were prevented from advancing by the fire of the Minié, and after this skirmishing had been continued for above a couple of hours, and when the party had been strengthened by the men of the Rifle Brigade under Major Norcott, and some of the sharpshooters of the Guards and Highlanders, they were driven back within their entrenchments. Capt. Cameron, of the Grenadier Guards, four of the sharpshooters, and one man of the Rifle Brigade, were wounded in this affair. One man of the 33rd Regiment, missing, was supposed to have advanced too far, and to have been made a prisoner. Considerable injury appeared to be done to the enemy, who were evidently afraid of the fire from the Minié. All speak favourably of this arm, and especially of its effect at long ranges. Some of the Russians were knocked over at distances which could not have been much less than 700 or 800 yards. When advancing, the Russian officers were seen urging the men on with the point of their swords, and when retiring from behind the sand hillocks, which they had thrown up for a cover, the men invariably made the best use they could of their legs.

It is doubtful whether the system of taking a number of men from the regiments of the line to act as sharpshooters is prudent under such circumstances. The men selected may be good as marksmen, but there is much to be learned in taking advantage of fitting positions, as well to obtain shelter for themselves, as also for the purpose of annoying the enemy. To these, and other points, the attention of very few officers and men of the line has been previously directed. In one instance, a small party of sharpshooters with a young officer in command, became so elated at an explosion in one of the enemy's batteries, in front of which they were lying in ambush, that they all got up and cheered; of course bringing upon themselves a volley the instant their position was exposed. In the skirmish just described, the sharpshooters of the Guards and Highlanders, in their eagerness to attack, advanced too far, and thus brought down a fire from the enemy's guns which might have been productive of serious mischief. A couple of companies or so of the Rifle Brigade—a corps organised for the work, and accustomed to it—would be more efficient than three times the number of men left to their own resources, and acting without proper support.

1 p.m.—The wind has been variable nearly all the morning, and for the last hour has been blowing from the north-west, bringing the smoke of the batteries towards our camp. The change in sound accompanying the change in the direction of the breeze, is very marked. Not only the intensity and loudness, but also the character of the sounds emitted by the various guns and batteries, are changed. The shell seems to burst within sharper and more startling explosion. The mountains around the Balaklava valley echo back with more force their reverberations of the cannon's roar. Amid all the conflicting noises, however, that of the "Express Train," as the discharge from the large Lancaster gun is familiarly called, and the compressed explosive report which announces its starting, are still the most forcible in the impression which they make on the ear. What must be the din within the stone walls of the town itself; among its public buildings, its squares, and its streets?

In the midst of the uproar we receive that which ever since our arrival in the country has been the most welcome of visitors, the most acceptable of gifts—our letters and newspapers. They date the 3rd of the present month. Judge our surprise at reading the rejoicings in England, not only at the successful engagement at Alma, but also at the fall of Sebastopol itself! We wish it were true; and trust in due time to prove that the error has consisted only in anticipating the event. We read also with amusement about the luxurious supplies of poultry, fish, and game, brought to us by the worthy Commissions. These reports must be made by people who forget that we are surrounded on the land side by an army, who, at any rate, if they do not chose to hazard coming to us themselves, will at least prevent the inhabitants from bringing supplies which they require too much themselves to sanction their conveyance to us. "Eggs at 3d. a dozen, and turkeys at 1s. 6d. each!" Perhaps at first some of the cavalry reconnoitering parties got them at a cheaper rate than that from the frightened Crimeans; but in this division, at least, we have never seen eggs and turkeys at market or any other prices, any more than the deer and the game which some people have supplied us so liberally with—on paper. However, the fresh meat, especially the mutton, supplied to us by the commissariat, has been most excellent: and of our rations generally we have had no reason to complain since landing in the Crimea.

In conversation with a French officer we learn that the explosion of the magazine in the French battery, which occurred shortly before two o'clock in the afternoon of yesterday, did more mischief than was at first reported. The guns were all put hors de combat, but they have been working at the battery with such energy since, that there is no doubt it will be ready to open fire again to-morrow. The officer who was in command at the time of the explosion is still alive: he is dreadfully scorched, and, if he survive, will inevitably lose his sight. Two officers were killed, and sixty men killed and wounded.

Among the casualties to-day is the Hon. Francis Hood, who was commanding the Grenadier Guards. He was killed by a round shot, while with a covering party of his regiment in the battery. His death was almost instantaneous. He led on his men with great coolness and gallantry at Alma, and was generally regarded as an able officer; he was much liked, and his loss is felt severely in the regiment. Assistant-Surgeon O'Leary, of the 60th Light Infantry, was also killed yesterday, while on duty with the men in the 68-gun battery.

The fleet has been quiet all day. Notwithstanding their tremendous broadsides, the ships do not appear to have done half the mischief which was anticipated to the enemy's forts. This is considered to be attributable in a great degree to the orders given by Admiral Dundas respecting the distance from which the vessels were to give their fire. Naval officers speak very openly of their disappointment and dissatisfaction. They say, that had the Admiral placed the ships at 300, instead of 1,800 yards, Fort Constantine must have been so shattered as to be rendered useless, while the ships themselves would have come off better than they did at the latter distance. The explanation given is, that at the shorter range very few of the fort's guns could have been so depressed as to be brought to bear on the ships; while the broadsides from the latter would have so damaged the walls and shaken the foundations of the fort, that its guns could have been no longer worked. The Agamemnon, which went nearest in, and received least damage, is quoted as a proof of this statement. The loss in the British ships engaged, is reported at 213 wounded, and 43 killed.

October 19.

Last night was again clear and starlight, though very chilly. A heavy dew fell. Long after daybreak the mists creeping along the valley, and stealing to the water of the bay and harbour, continue to prevent all view of the town and fortifications.

The fire from the batteries commences shortly before 7 o'clock, and is kept up for about two hours with great rapidity. The French batteries in the left also open, and in consequence divert the fire from some of the enemy's guns which yesterday had been brought to bear upon our batteries. Red-hot shot are to be used to-day against the buildings in the Dock-yard; the slender columns of black smoke ascending from the coal-fires in the furnaces for heating the shot contrast strongly with the white gunpowder smoke around them, as gun after gun is discharged in the batteries. No rocket, nor any other missile for the purpose of igniting the buildings of the town or Dockyard, has yet been fired. Lord Raglan's orders have hitherto been that the fire of the batteries should be wholly directed against the fortifications and the armed vessels in the bay and harbour. Instructions have now been given, it is said, to fire if possible the dockyard and other buildings, to distract part of the attention of the Russians from their batteries.

In the course of the morning a slight skirmish occurs between our sharpshooters in front of the Round Tower hill, and some Russian riflemen sent to drive them back. The Russians are made to retreat; a few, three or four, of our men are wounded. The enemy has established a number of sand hills, sufficiently high to cover a man, extending in a north-easterly direction from the foot of the Round Tower hill, towards the line of hill facking Careening Bay on the west side. Immediately in rear of these hillocks a very strong Russian picquet can be seen. This picquet and advanced rifle party cover what is marked in the map as the Ravine of Ochakov. Behind the picquet, and across the point of land forming the west side of the entrance to Careening Bay, a half-moon battery has been thrown up, on which some very heavy guns are mounted—probably guns from some of the large line-of-battle ships. The battery extends from the shore of the principal bay, and its embrasures at that of Careening Bay, twice crossing the works of the aqueduct. The guns on the Round Tower, and those of the earth works south of it, remain silenced: but one gun to the eastward, and two or three to the west of it, still give a great degree of annoyance. The tower is so battered as evidently to be beyond repair: but the earthworks to its right, the west side, however much they may be destroyed by day, are reinstated during the night, so as to enable them to work several guns. It now appears as if there were two lines of earth works on the side of the hill in this direction, toward the large dry dock and barracks. The eminence on which the Round Tower is built, is inflicted by Wyld's plan, just south of the principal Dockyard barracks, and to the east of the large hospital; but in some of the plans of the fortifications which I have seen is the fort itself marked. These details are the more interesting, as, when the assault is made, this must be one of the first positions attacked by the British force, it being the most commanding of the enemy's points on the right. It is said to be much undermined, and this is not an unlikely circumstance.

8 p.m.—The day has been sunny and hot, and the evening is now chilly, calm, and starlight. The enemy's batteries have ceased their fire, and so have the French; but from two of our batteries discharges of shell and rockets are still going on at intervals. The scene is beautiful, but to one who remembers the cruel realities connected with it, is full of painful reflections. All is apparently still in the town, which is but obscurely seen through the evening mists and diminished light, and is only illumined from time to time as the bursting shell, or rocket, throws a momentary glare around the spot where it has fallen. The passage of the shell in the air, thrown to an amazing height from the mortars, appears like that of a meteor. It rises and falls, seemingly to the eye almost perpendicularly; sometimes turning, as if turning on its axis and the fuse disappears in the projectile, with an interrupted pale light,—sometimes with a steady light, not unlike the calm luminosity of a planet. As it travels, it can be distinguished, amid the general stillness, uttering in the distance its peculiar sound, not unlike the cry of the curlew. The light in the battery announces the starting of a rocket: it pursues its more horizontal course, followed by a fiery train, and rushes through the air with a loud whizzing noise that gives an idea of irresistible energy. It is impossible not to think with sadness on the errands of these destroying messengers. Across the main valley leading to Sebastopol, looking guardward, where a large Russian force is said to be encamped, can be seen, thickly scattered, the enemy's fires; and, on turning in the opposite direction from this aspect, there are the long lines of fires belonging to our own troops who are investing the doomed city and fortress. Let us return to them, and in peaceful sleep forget for some hours the duty in which we are occupied.

October 20.

The morning misty, and the sky more overcast; but again the sun exerts its influence, and ushers in a fine warm day. Report says that a Polish officer, who escaped from the town during the night, and has given himself up as a prisoner this morning, describes the town and its troops to be in a pitiable state. The number of killed and wounded is said to be very great—there is much want of water—and some of the stores of ammunition are said to be very defective in quality and condition. Whatever amount of credence may be given to these statements, there is no doubt that important information has been obtained at head-quarters from some of the prisoners who have fallen into our hands and into those of our allies.

The "Twelve Apostles" has been compelled to shift its position at last: it is now moored above the Paul battery, and her masts can be seen towering above the dockyard wall and buildings.

2 p.m. Another explosion in one of the French batteries. A French officer afterwards informs us that no one was wounded, nor any gun injured. It occurred in a battery from which the greater part of the guns had been taken, and the gunpowder, which was blown up, was about to be removed. He stated that the French works were advancing, and that to-morrow they would open a battery within 600 yards of the town.

The four 68-pounder guns have been removed from the 5-gun battery to our right; two of them have been brought to Capt. Gordon's battery. One Lancaster gun only remains in that position. It is intended to construct a battery in another position on an adjoining hill, near, but still further to the right, to what was the 5-gun battery. The enemy had brought too many guns to bear on this point, and the men were suffering much from their fire. The fire has been very heavy and well directed against the 21-gun battery to-day. One of the enemy's round shot struck the muzzle of a large 68-pounder, breaking it, and killing and wounding by the fragments several who were around. Among the victims of this shot was Lieutenant Greathed, First Lieutenant of the "Britannia," flag-ship. He had been invalided home, but returned to his duty, and was on the eve of promotion. A great part of his side was carried away; but, in spite of the terrible wound, he he was able to dictate his last wishes in a letter to friends far away. He survived the injury upwards of half an hour. Two sailors and an artilleryman were killed by the same shot. Captain Browne, 44th Regiment, had his arm amputated to-day, from a round shot injury. Yesterday, Lieutenant-Colonel C. Alexander, commanding the Royal Engineers, died suddenly from apoplexy. He has been acting as chief of the department of the Ordnance with the army since the death of Brigadier General Tylden. Captain Gordon now takes the command.

An important arrival occurred to day; two vessels, one freighted with gunpowder, the other with shot. Had it not been for this supply, we should have been destitute of ammunition for the larger guns by to-morrow night, even at the present rate of firing, one discharge every seven minutes. Many of the Russian round-shot have been collected and returned.

One of the buildings in the Dockyard was set on fire this afternoon, but the fire was speedily extinguished.

The fire ceases on both sides soon after sunset.

11 p.m.—The rattle of several volleys of musketry, succeeded by a discharge of heavy guns, is heard in our rear. Some of the troops in front are turned out, and stand in their arms, ready for attack. It is said that here been merely a reconnoitering party of Cossacks who created the alarm, by coming near to one of the batteries manned by the Turkish troops near Balaklava.

October 21.

Another very fine day. The fire commenced about the usual hour, and continues, without intermission, till sunset. The Russian gunnery has been very good. In the 21-gun battery, a hollow shot was thrown into the muzzle of one of the guns; the shot, however, was broken, and the gun uninjured.

Another solid shot entered the muzzle of one of the guns, and broke and disabled the gun. This is the second 68-pounder gun thus rendered ineffective, one having been broken yesterday. Our guns have done great mischief to the enemy's works, but they repair them with rapidity at night, and, however exposed to fire, work their guns with great energy and precision. They have got the range of each of our batteries, and besides, have three or four guns to every one of ours. There is no denying that the general feeling is one of disappointment that we are not making more visibly rapid progress; but this feeling is said not to exist in high quarters. On the contrary, there is said to be satisfaction at our progress, and an opinion that it has been fully commensurate with what could have been anticipated from the nature and extent of the enemy's works. But although the providentially fine weather is still continuing, it cannot be expected to last long; and the fort must be taken, even at the point of the bayonet, before very many days elapse. Last year, three weeks before this time, the inhabitants state that the ground on these hills had been covered with snow to a depth of two feet.

At 2 a.m. this morning the Russians made a sortie, and attacked the French piquets to the left; they were, however, driven back, but not until after they had succeeded in spiking five guns in one of the French batteries. Fortunately, the guns were not permanently injured. It is said that it was difficult to prevent the Zouaves from pursuing the Russians to the very walls of the town. The troops in the English camp were in great part turned out, before the direction and extent of the sortie were ascertained. In the afternoon the Russians made a sortie against our sharpshooters on the right, but were again repulsed. Two of them, made prisoners, were brought through the camp. There is a great increase of dysenteric disease among our men. Lying out for twenty-four hours at a time, in the trenches, or covering the batteries elsewhere,—fixed to one spot, and in a constrained posture,—exposed to a warm sun by day and heavy dews at night,—and this duty constantly recurring without intervals of rest,—these are no doubt the causes of the increase of this affection, but they are unavoidable. What would have been the result if we had had rain and cold during the time we had been occupying these heights?

OCTOBER 22.

All was quiet during the night. Some anxiety is felt about the safety of Lord Dunkellin of the Guards. He went with a party of his regiment to convey ammunition to the new battery on the right about 5 a.m. There was no one to show the road and they missed the track. The serjeant at last observing troops in front called the attention of Lord Dunkellin to the fact, and he, ordering the party to remain where it was, went forward to reconnoitre. He did not return, and after some time waiting, the serjeant marched the men with the ammunition back to camp. It is feared that Lord Dunkellin advanced too far, being near-sighted, and was made prisoner.

Several prisoners have been taken by our sharpshooters to-day; among others, a Russian officer severely wounded in the face. He commanded a party of considerable force, who were made to retreat by a very much smaller number of English. The officer exhibited great personal courage, but he was deserted by his men. They left five dead behind them.

A southerly wind has been blowing strongly the greater part of the day, and, it is feared, will be followed by rain.

The Russians are constructing two new batteries, and busily engaged in repairing works that are injured. A small magazine, or mine, was exploded near the Round Tower this afternoon. Information has been received from a prisoner of the death of the Governor of Sebastopol. It is stated that he was wounded in the leg by a round shot, and that he sank after the amputation of the limb. Admiral Dundas is reported to have given up command of the fleet to Sir Edmund Lyons. The French have opened a rocket battery, and are throwing heavy discharges into the Russian works on the left. There is a talk of their making an assault in this quarter of the town, while we make a pretended assault to create a diversion, on the right. Such are the chief topics of to-day's news. The mail is made up at the Light Division this evening, and will be despatched from Balaklava to-morrow.

The Same. Cont.d

Cholera has continued to prevail among the troops, and appears to attack those chiefly who are most weighed down by fatigue. Men constantly fall out in the march unable to proceed further; they are attacked by cholera, and if picked up by some of the commissariat carts in the rear, are either brought in to die and be buried by the road side, or if near a port are sent to the ships to be taken care of. On the 25th no less than twenty-three men of different corps were buried together on the beach at the mouth of the Belbeck river where they had been sent to go on board ship. Among other officers who have fallen victims to the disease since the action of the 20th are, Lieut. Colonel Sidney Beckwith, 1st battalion Rifle Brigade; and Ensign F. H. Philpps, 19th regiment; buried together on the sea shore at Belbeck; Lieut.-Colonel W. F. Hoey, commanding the 20th regiment; Lieut. Grant, 79th Highlanders, nephew to Lord Elgin, and formerly in his staff in Canada; 1st class staff surgeon, Dr. Mitchell; and the Rev. Mr. Mockler, the chaplain attached to the 3rd division. This last-named gentleman was buried at Balaklava, on the 30th Sept. The sick at the General Hospital and Invalid Depot established there are suffering severely. Unless tents, or some protection against weather, as batting, is provided for the men and officers around Sebastopol, or if the operations are not soon concluded, the loss will be very severe from disease alone—for the nights are now, though providentially the weather still continues dry, very cold, and bring with them a heavy penetrating dew. Here I must close.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

Telegraphic despatches have been received at Paris and Vienna, as well as by the Foreign-office, with intelligence from the heights of Sebastopol of the 19th inst.

Prince Menschikoff's previous account is confirmed as to the date of the first bombardment. The attack commenced on the 17th, both by sea and land, the fire being then opened on all points; the French ships bombarded the Great Fort of the Quarantine, mounting 61 guns, and the Fort Alexander, which lies farther from the shore and below the town, close on the Southern end to the Boom that is placed across the harbour, and the sunken Russian ships behind it. The British ships attacked the Great Fort Constantine and the Telegraph Fort, lying to the left of the Fleet, and to the north of the harbour, where the Russian reinforcements are said to be placed. On the 19th, when these accounts left, the result was that the Quarantine Battery was silenced, and the French attack was continued against Fort Alexander, and the loop-holed wall that defends the town of Sebastopol on the south-western side. It was not without loss that the Allied Squadrons assisted in this combined and concentrated attack. The Allied Squadrons lost altogether 100 men killed, and 200 wounded, in those three days. An Aide-de-Camp of the French Admiral was struck by a shell on the deck of the Ville de Paris, the flag ship. The Agamemnon, bearing aloft the flag of Sir Edmund Lyons, has suffered most severely, and the Retribution (Captain Drummond) had a mast shot away. Of the casualties on the land we have no account. But the Russians confess to 500 killed, including Admiral Kornileff, and when the truth shall be known, this no mber will probably be greatly increased.

———, H.M.S. ——, October 24, 1854.

Of course it has reached England that Lord Raglan opened his trenches on the 17th, and it had been agreed upon the preceding day by the allied admirals that wood and iron should try conclusions with stone walls at the same time. Accordingly, Lord Raglan having opened his trenches at 5 a.m., the combined fleet got under weigh direct for the entrance of the harbour. Of course, to force a passage in was quite impossible, as on the day of Alma the enemy had sunk five line-of-battle ships in fear and cold heart to prevent such a catastrophe. However, the Agamemnon, Rodney, and the Arethusa got into less than six fathoms water, by the aid of steam; indeed, gallant old Graham of the Rodney, absolutely for a few moments, was aground. Not a shot or shell was fired by any ship until she had taken up her prescribed station; at about 10 minutes to 2 p.m. the fiery volcanic of destruction poured forth its hot and sulphurous breath on either side, the assailants and assailed. In somewhat less than an hour a magazine blew up in a large battery mounting 194 guns, and for upwards of twenty minutes that fort returned no fire; but the snake was only scotched, not killed; all the upper tier of guns mounted en barbette were overturned, those in the casemates not so, but from their long silence the slaughter must have been immense; but human life in Russia, or in the eyes of a Russian Czar, is of little value; and we being re-manned, it recommenced its no inflammable part To "describe the operation of each individual ship is impossible, even if there had not been a smoke as dense as darkness itself. Good people of England, your fleet that day did its duty, though the walls of Sebastopol still exist, although not quite so truculent looking as before. Could ships get within 500 yards of the opposing embrasures, its fate would be among the fates that have been, but reefs and want of depth of water forbid. The casualties of life and limb were 46 killed and 265 wounded on our part, that is of the English fleet; that of the French and Turks I have not been able to learn sufficiently satisfactorily to place it upon paper. The Retribution lost her mainmast; the Albion, main and mizzenmast, badly wounded, and she is here at Constantinople with the Arethusa to repair damages. With regard to this latter vessel, she was probably in the hottest of the fire, and, after sustaining and repelling the assaults of three batteries (one the large one abovenamed) for some time almost single-handed, at the expiration of one hour and forty minutes she was compelled to withdraw, having been on fire, and making one foot water per hour. One shell threw her sixteen ribs in, on the starboard side of the maindeck, splitting an iron knee in two as though it had been a hazel nut beneath the jaws of the crackers; another, immediately below it, entered the lower deck, converting the office, the assistant-surgeon's, and carpenter's cabins into one heap of nameless and shapeless things. Had any one been unfortunately in them at the time, you would not have found sufficient to identify him, though he had been your own mother's son. A shot entered a port on the quarter-deck, and after knocking a trunion off a 32-pounder, totally disabled a gun carriage on the opposite side. She has, or had, a hole in her counter you could sweep through. Many of the ships went into action short-handed, as there is a naval brigade serving in the trenches. The frigate here spoken of had 160 men on shore, with two of her heaviest teninch guns. Lord Raglan has spoken in the highest terms of them, though the harum-scarum dare devils, not content with endeavouring to fire three times to an artilleryman's twice, must jump upon the embrasures to see where his shot hits, to the great likelihood of his being tumbled down by the enemy much quicker than he got up. Lord Raglan, as I stated before, opened his trenches on the 17th, and since that date they have vomited forth their iron sleet and salphurous shower without intermission day and night, and all goes well. In the opinion of all the authorities fall it best. He (Lord Raglan) I say Lord Raglan, because, since the death of Marshal St. Arnaud by cholera, he seems to be commander-in-chief, deserves the highest praise for his skill in constructing his works. He would not permit a gun to be fired until he had completed them, and an officer of artillery serving in them assured me, although during their construction the enemy had thrown upwards of 10,000 shells amongst them, the casualties reported were only four killed and fourteen wounded—a fact, but an undoubted one, that seems incredible. And even now, so far as I can satisfactorily learn, the losses on our part, taking the hugeness of the operations and the terrible power of the modern missiles of war into consideration, are more than singularly small; though I regret to say, of the naval lieutenants serving on shore, Messrs. Greathead, first of the Britannia, and Rodwell, of the London, are slain.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

JOURNAL OF OPERATIONS.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.)

BRITISH CAMP, Nov. 2.

I again prefer to forward my letter in the form of a Journal.

Oct. 24.—Last night was again clear and starlight, but without the moon, which at present sets early. The sun rises with great brilliancy, and is succeeded by an exceedingly hot day.

At about 4 a.m. the report of musketry, succeeded by that of heavy guns, was heard in the direction of Balaklava. We afterwards learned that a body of the enemy's cavalry, probably making a reconnaissance, had come upon one of the outlying pickets in the rear, and had been quickly forced to retire by a discharge of shell from one field artillery. The sound of these guns had not very long subsided, when the rattle of musketry was heard arising from several directions along the right flank, both from the French and our own pickets. It was at first supposed that the Russians were making a general attempt to force our outposts on this side, and the true explanation which followed was somewhat ludicrous. The sentries in advance, who had first given the alarm, had heard the tramp of horses, and observed, what in the dusky grey light appeared to be cavalry, making a charge. In spite of the foe, the supposed troopers advanced, but irregularly, and in small detached bodies. As they came close, however—in some cases rushing close by the pickets—to the surprise of every one, all the riders had gone, and the horses, saddled and accoutred, alone remained. No doubt existed afterwards but that a number of horses, ready saddled in case of alarm or who had lately been ridden, had broken from their pickets—probably frightened by the shelling near Balaklava—and in their flight had taken the direction of our lines. Upwards of 70 were captured in the course of the night and morning; about 40 by the English and 30 by the French. Many of those taken by the English were greys, of good height, and in excellent condition, and were sent to make up deficiencies in the ranks of the Scots Greys, quartered near the river. The French officer who was on outpost duty considerably in advance, on the slope of the hills forming our right flank, described the situation he was placed in by this incident very amusingly. He had just settled down from being put on the alert by the firing near Balaklava, when he was again roused by the fire of some of the English pickets to his left. While listening to this, and looking out for the cause of the firing, he was suddenly startled by the rapid approach of a body of horsemen. There was not sufficient light for him to discern them; but he heard their gallop and movement among the bushes in front of him. He thought for a moment they must be some English or French cavalry pickets going by, and called out, "Qui vive;" but no reply was given to his challenge. Presently a group of them swept by close to his left. Thinking then he was surrounded by the enemy, he had just time to tell his men to lie flat down among the brushwood; and there they lay, with expectation strained, until the imaginary cavalry had passed away, and all was quiet around. Who the horsemen were, and on what errand they had come and gone, was a subject of surmise till morning cleared up the mystery.

Some further particulars are known respecting the attack on our right by the Russians on the afternoon of the day before yesterday. Their loss, as was supposed, turns out to have been very severe. Upwards of 170 have been buried on the field by men of the Second Division, and other dead have been seen lying beyond the limits to which our troops could with safety advance. The loss of the Russians can have been little less than eight or nine hundred, including killed and wounded; while ours was only 14 killed and 43 wounded. The Russians came over the hill to the north of the second division in four columns, with artillery, each column being about 1,000 strong. Sir De Lacy Evans quickly had his division under arms. The pickets were driven in; but the general advanced a strong force of skirmishers, who were in a great degree concealed by the brushwood with which the ground is there covered, and, when they opened fire, the Russian skirmishers were at once checked in their advance. The artillery shortly afterwards opened their fire, which was admirably directed, and the Russian columns wavering moved to the left. The shells and rockets were still thrown visibly among them, and in a short time they staggered and fled back towards the valley at the head of the harbour, the Inkermann valley, from which they had first issued. The English troops pursued them until they were stopped by the fire from some of the ships' guns which opened upon them. General Bosquet, who was present with reinforcements from the Light Division, had no occasion to bring them into action—the Second Division and the artillery settled the engagement. Many of the wounded were carried by within musket range of the English pickets; but, contrary to the practice of the Russians in like circumstances, they refrained from firing at them while they passed. It is said that the troops who made this attack were freshly arrived by the Pera-kop, and had not fought at Alma; and that, after having been addressed by Prince Menschikoff, they had desired to be led against the English invaders. Assisted by a double allowance of raki, they had advanced; but the precision of the fire from the English artillery, and its destructive effects were too much for them, and they were soon compelled to retire with the less strength disorderly. The number of troops destroyed in the Russian batteries, and in the town, according to the statements of deserters, has also been very great. Six thousand killed and wounded are named, and, included among these is a large proportion of their best artillerymen, whose places have been supplied by marines from the fleet.

Among the Russian prisoners is the officer who a day or two since took Lord Paukellin, of the Coldstream Guards, prisoner. He states that Lord Dunkellin is treated with all due respect, and that he was entertained by Prince Menschikoff as a private guest. Perhaps the fact of Lord Dunkellin's father, the Marquis of Clanricarde, having once held the appointment of Ambassador at the court of St. Petersburg, may have had its share of influence in this arrangement. Lord Dunkellin and other English prisoners have now been moved to Simpheropol.

A new battery for mortars is in course of construction about 150 yards in front of the 21-gun—or Frenchman's hill—battery. There is no opportunity of advancing guns to this division, from the peculiar nature of the ground; but these mortars will, no doubt, be found very efficient in annoying and clearing the Russian battery directly in front of the 21-gun battery, and the opposition from which has been very injurious to our gunners. A small ravine divides the ground on the crest of which the mortar battery is being constructed, from the brow of the hill on which is the 21-gun battery; and the two ridges are so nearly on a level that the guns of the last named battery will only just clear the parapet of the former. The mortar battery will be distant between eight and nine hundred yards from the Russian guns, being separated only by a deep rocky ravine, the sides of which are very precipitous. To connect the 21-gun and mortar batteries a covered way has been made; and this skirts a ridge of gravel to the left, finishing the small ravine which divides the two batteries. Major Powell, of the 49th Regiment, who was with a working party in the new battery, was going along this covered way to-day, and incautiously exposed himself to the view of some of the Russian sharpshooters posted in advance of their works. One of them fired, and, with fatal precision, struck Major Powell in the head. He was killed almost instantaneously. Another battery on the right is also in course of completion; it will be armed with eight 68-pounder guns from the Trenches. The end of the week is that the French will be ready to make the assault on the left by the 1st of November, and that as heavy a fire as on the first day of the siege will then be opened from all our batteries, in order to divide the attention of the enemy, and thus assist in the first part of the storming operations.

Since the action of the 25th instant there has been a change in the arrangement of the camp. The remnant of our cavalry, and the artillery, who were quartered in the small valley just before entering the Balaklava gorge, have been drawn further back, and are now encamped in rear of the French lines, about two miles from Balaklava. The whole of the Highland brigade has been moved to Balaklava, which is not only defended by them and other troops of the line, but also by a very strong force—about 1,400 marines—who are encamped on the sides and up to the summit of the mountain, flanking the land entrance to the gorge on the left. A battery has also been thrown up on an eminence just at the entrance of the gorge, and immediately beyond, at the foot of this hill, a large body of Ottoman troops are placed. The Sanspareil, Diamond, and Wasp are lying in the harbour of Balaklava, ready to sweep the roads to the village with their guns. A continuous body of French troops commences at the extreme right of the force in front of Sebastopol—that is, from the camp of the 2nd English Division, which covers part of the southern aspect of the mountain rising from the Inkermann Valley—and from their position extends in an easterly direction along the heights, terminating on the mountain which flanks the Balaklava gorge on the right, or north western side. The whole of this ground appears to be alive with troops, and is strongly entrenched and fortified. On examining this position, as well from its elevation and the facility of the approach, as from the masses of troops and efficiency of the entrenchments, it cannot be imagined that any attack from the plain below which could be made upon it, notwithstanding its extent, could be otherwise than successfully repulsed. Another line of troops, chiefly French and Turkish, keep up the communication between the extreme left of the army in front, the French bay of debarcation, and the base at Balaklava, but no fortifications of course are here required, as this line follows the general direction of the coast. It has been discussed whether the value of keeping Balaklava is equivalent to the number of troops required for its protection and defence, who would otherwise be occupied in the direct operations against Sebastopol; and it is understood that it is now retained at the special request of Admiral Lyons, who offered to defend it by his own men rather than it should be lost. Balaklava is a harbour as well as a bay, while the bays between Cape Cherson and the roadstead of Sebastopol are all open and exposed.

The brigade of Guards is still encamped close to the 2nd Division, where it is acting as a support, and in place of the Highland Brigade, before encamped in rear of the Light Division; some other troops have been brought up, who will assist in working in the trenches. In addition to the allied force already named, another French division is on its way to the Crimea, together with reinforcements to the Divisions already in the field, making in all, with the artillery accompanying them, a body of 30,000 men. The Buffs and 5th Regiment are reported to be on their way from Malta, and the six companies of the 60th Rifles are said to have arrived at Constantinople. These, with reinforcements of artillery, and drafts to other regiments, will add 3,000 men to the English force. Such an army will not only be able to hold Balaklava, and take Sebastopol, but also afterwards to put to flight the army outside its walls. The Russians are fortifying a position at Bakhtchi Serai, to fall back upon in case of having to make a retreat.

9 p.m.—I visited this afternoon a large square battery, which the French are placing on the right flank, on a projecting table of rock which juts out from the side of the mountain, a little distance south of the position of our 2nd division. It is 250 feet above the plain through which the river Tchernaya winds, and descends almost perpendicularly to its base. A large body of troops, of the 50th regiment of the line, and entire Zouaves (Algerines) were busily occupied at the work; but the excavation, from the nature of the ground, a limestone rock, with many detached honeycombed fragments intermixed with soil near the surface, proceeded but slowly. The parapets were however, finished. While I was there, General Canrobert arrived with his staff and the distinguishing tri-colour, to inspect the progress of the battery. The general appears to have fully recovered from the effects of his wound at Alma, and also to have regained his health and spirits. He is an active, energetic man, appears young for a general officer, and is constantly going among his troops, who express great confidence in him as a leader, and seem attached to him personally. He remained some time observing the plain below and the Russian troops, a large body of which were on the opposite side.

Nothing could be more magnificent than the coup-d'œil from this battery. Turning the eye to the left or northward, the end of the Inkermann valley, with neat houses enclosed in gardens, and large spreading trees, met the view. The valley of the roadstead of Sebastopol was quite out of sight, and the little plain presented no signs of movement or of life; indeed, enclosed as it appeared to be on all sides by mountains, save at the narrow opening through which we were looking down upon it, it appeared like some secluded nook far away from all the bustle of a large port—a quiet spot, that it would be a sin to disturb by such a roar as the cannon in this battery will probably soon be roaring among the echoes of its mountains. The entrance to this valley was narrow, on the left it was formed by the high mountain, on part of which I was standing, on the opposite side by the projecting end of another limestone cliff, the sides of which were perforated by numerous caves, and on the crest of which were portions of low fortified towers. Those were the Inkermann ruins, said to be of great antiquity. Further back, and on a higher point, at an elevation of about 400 feet, stood a solitary lighthouse. Continuing the gaze from the gorge, one side of which was crowned by loose ruins, the eye fell upon a large flat unbroken plain about five miles in length, stretching in a south-easterly direction. The surface of this appeared like a vast meadow, through which—its course, as it serpentined along, being marked by a few trees, and a narrow belt of darker green than that of the general plain—the little Tchernaya river threaded its way. The stream is so narrow, that nowhere could the water itself be seen. The broadest and most frequented road through this valley appeared to be that at the foot of the mountains on the opposite side. Following the Tchernaya up its course, it was seen making its way through another gorge, to a small village, part of which only could be seen. Here it was, on the 20th of September, the British army encamped previous to taking possession of Balaklava on the following day. Now, the Russian troops are encamped there. The Balaklava plain is concealed from view by a long isolated hill, which separates it from the valley just described. Were it not for this eminence, the two valleys would form one large plain. But it does not conceal from view the conical hill outside and to the left of Balaklava, on the top of which was the battery and the Diamond's guns, which the Turks allowed to be taken from us, and which the Russians still hold. There they are busily fortifying the position with a double ditch, and employed just as actively also in throwing up a redoubt on the rising ground immediately in front of it. Were it not for the manner in which it was lost, and that in all probability the ship's guns are now on their way to Moscow to be landed over, perhaps to be made saints of, so that they cannot be retaken, at any rate for the present, I believe the loss of the position is of not the least importance; indeed, it is rather a matter of surprise why it was ever occupied. But to proceed with our survey. Still further to the right there is the mountain gorge, at the bottom of which rests the inside but deep harbour of Balaklava; at the end of the gorge, the roadside, on the easiest and declivity of which are the ruins of the two old Genoese forts; and there beyond is the glistening sea, and passing along on its surface one of our own steamers, with its pennant of dark smoke. The whole scene from Balaklava to the heights above Sebastopol, glowing in the bright sunshine, is magnificent; and looking beyond, as mountain after mountain rises in always red picturesque confusion, until the white is crowned by the lofty Chadir Dagh itself, the grandeur fails us if nothing were wanted to make its grandeur more complete. But, fine as it is as a picture, there is deeper interest in it still. Immediately in front of me, across the plain, are nine dark lines of cavalry. With my telescope I say them plainly. Not less than two thousand men each form those compact squadrons. Close by the park of artillery; further on, by the little village, is a large square tent, with two others in the rear, and a small body of cavalry, enough for a guard, and the movement of men going and coming—no doubt the headquarters of the Russian Generalissimo; further on, along the ridge of that long low hill are pickets, letting of troops in the plain beyond: there again is the rounded hill where the Russian troops are entrenching their position, while beyond are blockaded four dark masses of infantry, the battalions alone reaching up to the village, which is nestled in a hollow on the side of the mountain above. From the battery where I stand, along the line of hill which stretches from it to Balaklava itself, and a thousand feet up to the very summit of the mountain at its side, is a line of troops of another nation—invaders—but I believe on a just and necessary errand. The struggle which must come—the fates which hang on the issue—are in such a portion of the picture I am now going

se, as the light and shade which give it effect.

Oct. 29. During the night the wind veered round to the eastward, and there were heavy squalls of rain. This morning it is blowing from the north, the temperature is very cold, and all around wears the aspect of winter. Dense masses of grey clouds drive along the horizon, and light vapoury mists sweep through the camp. The soldiers in their greatcoats huddle over the small flickering camp fires, while their ingenuity is taxed to the utmost to keep them alight and to make them give heat enough to boil the coffee in their canteens, or with hands grasped together in their coat-sleeves they move briskly about to stir the sluggish blood, or screen themselves beneath the weary shelter of their canvas dwellings. The wind has no mercy; it is bitterly cold and damp, all the more cold by contrast with the warmth of yesterday. Even the horses with their rugged coats, and backs well turned to the wind, picketed on the stony ground where scarcely a blade of grass finds sustenance, droop their heads and seem to be despondent. There is a break in the line of hills above one of the ravines; and through this a peep at the sea beyond; it, too, reflects the general leaden hue, and the ships usually showing their white sides in the sunshine, now rise and fall at their anchors with a black, sullen aspect. Do not let your thoughts wander to the comforts of home; but ye who are lucky enough to be in camp compare yourselves with those whose turn it happens to be to pass the 24 sluggish hours on the bare ground in the trenches.

All hope that this is merely a passing change of weather, and that the winter is not really set in. Officers and men are without winter clothing; and on these hills the tents of single canvas afford but slight protection. All the officers' private kit horses are still detained at Varna or Scutari, or are underground; and perhaps if they were here they would be of little use, as there would be but little chance of finding the means to keep them alive. Their baggage is still tossing about in the transports; for even in the few instances in which these vessels have come into the harbour of Balaklava, the baggage has been so stowed away to make space for other stores, or the vessels have been so quickly hurried away with sick to Scutari or on other errands, that the owners have had no opportunity of recovering it. Some few have had the opportunity of purchasing at extravagant rates greatcoats of attire casually offered for sale; but as a rule none of the officers or men are provided against the exigencies of winter. Indeed, were any one from England suddenly to find himself with the army in the Crimea, this fact would be sufficiently obvious, for nothing would strike his observation more at first than the "seedy"—I might almost say, the dirty and neglected—appearance of the British troops, men and officers alike. Coats patched, trousers threadbare, boots unpolished, faces covered with hair in open defiance of the general order, and the "two fingers breadth"—a general want of uniformity and neatness—such is the prevailing condition of our troops. The French affect, it must be confessed, a favourable contrast; their dress is serviceable, and they have evidently the means of keeping it clean and in order; nay, even the Turks are more orderly and trim in their attire. The military authorities have had the opportunity of studying some lessons in this campaign, which, it may well be hoped, will be hereafter turned to advantage in our army regulations.

A body of the Ottoman soldiery were sent after dusk last evening to work in the new mortar battery. About half-past 10 p.m. the covering party, which was given by one of the regiments of the Light Division, was startled by a sudden rush among them of these soldiers. They were in alarm and confusion, but on what account was not apparent, for the English could not understand the exclamations of the Ottomans; and the advanced sentries not having fired, there was no indication of an attack. At last, as the English stood their ground, the Ottomans gathered confidence and returned to the battery. The cause of the alarm and the rush was afterwards explained. The rock in front of the battery is so precipitous in some parts, and of such a nature, that one or two of the advanced sentries, posted on the declivity, when relieved, in order to re-join their pickets have to climb over the parapet of the battery, and the sudden appearance of these men in the dusk jumping down into the works had caused the panic among the unarmed Ottomans. But the matter did not end here. The sentries in advance of the 21-gun battery seeing the general flight and confusion of the Ottomans concluded that the Russians had come in force to destroy the new battery, and passed up the alarm to a picket stationed at a house on the brow of the hill, commonly known as the picket house. There the alarm was forwarded to the nearest regiment, which happened to be the 33rd, who were quickly ordered under arms, and a message was despatched by the general in command of the brigade. Of course the false nature of the alarm was speedily known also, and the troops dismissed.

Not long after this panic, a real sortie was made by the Russians on the advanced French works. They came out under cover of a very rapid and severe cannonade from their batteries, but the French troops sallied out in force, and drove them back by the fire of their musketry.

The siege progresses slowly. The fire from the batteries has been slack, and apparently has partaken of the prevailing torpor. The day has continued cold, with occasional showers, and a biting wind from the north.

Oct. 30.—A cold bleak night. The morning dull and grey, like a January morning in England. Wind more easterly, amounting at intervals to a gale. Towards mid-day the sun appears, but soon retires again. Not much change in the batteries.

A flag of truce was sent the day before yesterday to ascertain the fate of some of our missing and prisoners. The messenger was treated with great civility, and assured that our prisoners would be treated well in every respect. A rumour prevails in the camp that Prince Menschikoff has been appalled to Moscow, and is about to resign the command of the army in the Crimea.

October 31.—A fine starlight night, but very cold. The wind continues from the north-east, but has much subsided, and the sun gives a more cheerful appearance to everything around.

About 11 p.m. a heavy fire of musketry and shells was heard in the rear, which lasted for upwards of an hour. It was surmised in the front that a very determined attack was being made by the Russians on Balaklava again, but this was not the case. None of the English troops were engaged, and a French officer also assured me that to the best of his belief none of their troops were engaged either. Some of the Russian shells fell about 200 yards short of the French lines, and also of the English battery near to the entrance to Balaklava, but no shots were returned. The prevailing idea is that in the dark something had given rise to a false alarm amongst some of the Russian pickets, who had kept up a fire on a supposed force in front of them.

Nov. 1.—Another clear night and frost. The morning, though cold, is bright; towards the afternoon, however, the wind, still from the north-east, becomes more high, and the cold more severe. The continued severity of the weather is very trying to the men, and it is feared that the winter has at last come in earnest.

The fire in our batteries much the same as during the last three or four days. The French works gradually advancing.

Nov. 2.—The past night clear and frosty. Wind still from the north-east, but less severe. The sun gives promise of a fine day.

About 8 a.m. a tremendous fire was opened on the French batteries to the left, and shortly afterwards, what is unusual, a very heavy fire of shot and shell was opened in the direction of the 21-gun battery. The mortar battery appears to have escaped their observation, or perhaps, from not seeing any guns there, they have mistaken the nature of the work. The shot passed over it. The cannonade occurred just at the time when the covering and working parties are marched to the batteries to relieve those who have been there during the previous 24 hours, about an hour or so before daybreak. Both those going and leaving were therefore much exposed; and had to watch the opportunity of a slackening in the fire to make their way. Four men of the right wing of the 2nd Battalion 30th Brigade were shot dead, and two were slightly wounded. The other parties reached the batteries unhurt. The discharge of shell appeared to come chiefly from some of the ships in harbour.

There have been very few casualties among the British during the last few days, and taking into consideration the quantity of shell and shot which has fallen among them, this immunity is a subject of great surprise and congratulation.

FULL PARTICULARS OF THE BATTLE OF INKERMANN.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP, ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, SUNDAY EVENING, Nov. 5.

A battle has been fought to-day, which it is feared will be found, when the returns of killed and wounded are collected, to have been attended with a loss considerably exceeding that sustained by the British troops at Alma. Among the list of casualties are no less than eight general officers killed and wounded; and instead of the brunt of the attack falling, as at Alma, on two or three brigades, it has this day been distributed over nearly every division of the army. The Second Division, Brigade of Guards of the First Division, the Light and Fourth Divisions have particularly suffered. The enemy has been repulsed with great loss; the number of their dead left on the field would appear to exceed five-fold that of our men, and a large body of prisoners has fallen into our hands.

The action may be said to have commenced about 6 a.m., long before daylight, and not to have concluded until 2 p.m., so that the majority of the troops were not able to return to their camps until a short time before sunset. In brief the battle may be described as a concentrated attack upon the extreme right of the besieging army, while a feigned attack on Balaklava and the right flank were made at the same time, to engage the attention of the Allies towards the rear, and a strong sortie was made against the extreme left, for the purpose of destroying the advanced works of the French in that position, or at least of preventing their troops operating as a support elsewhere.

The attack commenced by some skirmishing with the advanced pickets in advance of the Second Division and First Brigade of the Light Division, about 6 a.m. The day before there was a change from the previous cold weather, the wind had veered round to the west and was accompanied by continuous rain. This was followed by a dense misty fog. Towards morning this mist in a great measure disappeared, and about 7 o'clock the light enabled us to perceive that the Russians had placed guns in an exceedingly strong position upon the summit of a hill about a mile in advance, and to the north of that on the side of which the Second Division was encamped. This position was separated by two ravines, communicating with each other, from the British camp. Strong columns of the enemy were also seen to be marching out of Sebastopol, while in addition large masses of infantry were already occupying the hill on the summit of which their battery had been placed. This force shortly afterwards advanced with loud cheering, the sound of which was heard a very long distance, and the Second Division, under Brigadier-General Pennefather (the Division General, Sir De Lacy Evans, having gone on board sick) shortly afterwards advanced to meet them. Then commenced a contest which lasted for five successive hours without interruption. The rattle of musketry, as the infantry fought for each inch of ground, and the booming of the heavy guns, and the shower of shell and shot from the enemy's battery, and our own field guns, which flew over head, went on unceasingly till noon, and did not cease altogether until two hours after. The brigade of Guards under Major-General Bentinck, Light Division under Sir George Brown, and Fourth Division under Lieut.-General Sir George Catheart, were quickly brought up to the support. At first, after a fierce struggle, the enemy were driven back as far as the bottom of the hill on which they had mounted their guns; but immense reserves which they had posted there rose up, and in turn our troops had to retire. The Russians at one time advanced close up to the tents of the Second Division—following upon the steps of one of our regiments (I believe a regiment of the Fourth Division), who, under the heavy pressure, were retiring in some disorder, but here a rally was soon effected, and the Russians were again driven back with fearful slaughter. So close was the advance of the Russians that an artilleryman fearing the loss of three guns hastily spiked them in case of the worst, but succeeded in bringing them away. The guns which the enemy had placed on the height—and the position commanded that of the hill on which the Second Division were encamped—were of very large calibre. They threw their shells thickly among the tents of this Division, and notwithstanding they were struck at an early hour of the day, they have been literally riddled with the fragments of the shells which burst among them. In the early part of the morning, as column after column advanced from the direction of the town, the Lancaster gun, the only one which remained in the 5-gun battery, was brought to bear upon them, and did great execution. The Russians made a very determined assault to secure this piece, but were repulsed. Some of our troops in turn advancing, drove the gunners away, and had actually taken possession of four of the enemy's brass field guns which they had advanced, but a large body rose which had been previously concealed among the brushwood, and compelled them by their fire to relinquish their possession. At one the Second Division, having advanced too far to the right, were in a very great hazard of being cut off, and were in a great measure saved by the rapid advance of a large body of Zouaves and other French troops, which, coming rapidly upon the Russians still more to the right, prevented them from making a further attack against our troops on their flank.

In the early part of the day—indeed, almost simultaneous with the commencement of the grand attack on the right—cannonading was heard in the direction of Balaklava. It soon became evident that no very serious advance was intended in this direction, and that part of the troops previously lying in the plain had been withdrawn during the night to assist in the execution of the principal object of the engagement, carried on by the troops against our right. The attack on the left was of a more determined character, and was made by several columns of Russian infantry, supported by artillery. The French went out to meet them, and though they received them with a heavy fire of musketry, two hours elapsed before they were finally driven back within their fortifications. Some of the Russian columns marched along the sea shore, and had one of our ships been within range much execution might have been done among them.

It will be impossible until the returns are collected to estimate the number of killed and wounded who have fallen this day. It is well known that the list will be a very serious one. Sir George Cathcart, commanding the 4th Division, is among the killed, as is also poor old General Strangways, (co-commanding the Ordnance Department. His fine form, and snow white hair, had long made him conspicuous among the troops; equally, as he is said to have been, for his amiable and estimable qualities among the large circle of his friends and acquaintances. He lost a leg, which was carried away by a round shot, and died soon afterwards from the effects of the injury. General Goldie is also killed. Sir George Brown was wounded in the arm. It was a flesh wound, but he has been lately suffering from general indisposition, and, acting upon the advice of his friends, he has quitted his command, and gone for treatment on board the Agamemnon. He was removed on a litter in one of the commissariat carts. Brigadier General Adams is wounded, as is also Gen. Torrens, in command of a brigade of the 4th Division. Major General Bentinck, commanding the brigade of Guards, is also wounded, but, it is reported, not severely. Brigadier General Butler, commanding the 2nd brigade Light Division, received a contused wound in the leg from a round shot. The ball went through the body of his horse; it entered its chest, and bruised the general's leg as it passed out of the animal's flank.

The official returns will alone enable the names of the many officers of other grades killed and wounded in this action to be known. All the regiments of the 2nd Division have suffered severely, and the Coldstream regiment particularly in the Brigade of Guards. The regiments which happened to have been detached for duty in the trenches alone escaped without considerable loss.

General Sir de Lacy Evans, whose gallant defence of the position under his command on the 26th ult. was so favourably noticed by Lord Raglan in orders, was unfortunately an invalid, and on board ship at

Balaklava. Subsequent to the action alluded to he had a fall from his horse, but he had previously been weakened by suffering from illness. Hearing of the attack he came up to the front, and was present on the field; but he was too weak to assume command.

The loss of the Russians must have been immense. Their dead are lying up to the very doors of the tents of the Second Division, and they are thickly strewed among the bushes around. The high road leading up to this position from the direction of the Inkermann valley, and which winds along one of the precipitous sides of a very deep ravine, is covered with their bodies. The wounded are being collected, but numbers will have to lie where they are until daylight shall again afford an opportunity for removing them. About 600 prisoners are at present under guard, and this number does not include the wounded Russians who have been taken to the various hospitals.

One of the most obvious and serious deficiencies in our arrangements—one which led to the unnecessary loss of many valuable lives—was the absence of any earthworks, a line of entrenchments, to protect the camp of the Second Division. Its position on our extreme right—on the side of the hill, with a gentle slope, and directly connected with the high mountain which descends upon the valley of the Tchernaya river where it falls into the head of the Sebastopol roadstead, is necessarily very much exposed. The absence of such works can only be attributed to our having underrated the strength of the Russian troops, or to having held a too low estimate of their courage. At one time our men had to rally in front of their tents to save the camp itself, and the numbers of Russians dead who are now lying within ten yards of the advanced row of them proves how close was the struggle. The rapidity with which the French fortify a post as soon as it is occupied, offers a striking contrast with our neglect of the precaution in the present instance. A high road from the Inkermann valley passes up to the camp by one of the ravines. Across this road was drawn a simple stone breastwork, but beyond this the defence appears to have been wholly entrusted to the courage and arms of the troops. The courage has not been wanting; and the position has been retained, but it has been at a fearful sacrifice of life. Another misfortune was, that owing to the continuous damp of the night and day previous to the attack, many of the percussion caps missed fire, and the men were unable to discharge their muskets. This was found to be the case particularly at the early part of the morning. The French observed, too, that our men in repairing advanced too far without sufficient support.

It is said that the Russian soldiers had been liberally supplied with raki previous to the commencement of the attack. Their continued and loud shouting, and the impetuosity of their attack, render it probable that they were under the influence of some artificial stimulus of the sort. In the caverns, also, of many of the killed on the field was found a mixture of raki and water. The men who have fallen into our hands, though generally of short stature, are of sturdy frames, with broad chests and well-developed muscular legs. Their clothing is well made and warm; and, though coarse in texture, an amply sufficient protection against the weather. The voluminous folds of their great coats, the sleeves of which are doubled back nearly as far as the elbows, while the skirts descend to the ankles—throw the "skimping" ordnance great coats issued to our troops completely in the shade as regards comfort and warmth. To prevent the length of the coat inconveniencing the wearer when walking, the skirt all around is made by a very simple contrivance to loop up above the knee. So, also, the coat can be worn loose like a cloak, or drawn in at the waist. The men carry with them mittens of thick black cloth, the four fingers being together in one, the thumb in another division of the glove.

Great advantages resulted from the employment of the ambulances in the removal of the wounded during the progress of the action. It is to be lamented that so few of these vehicles have been sent out—two only to each division—and that the army is not provided with some contrivance similar to the mule ambulances of the French. On each side of the mule is an iron frame, which can be either used as a seat or unfolded into a reclining couch, thus enabling two wounded to be carried either in a sitting posture or lying at full length. Numbers of these were employed in carrying the wounded to the rear. Their peculiar advantage is that no irregularity of the ground prevents their being able to arrive at a spot where the service of an ambulance may be required. The hospital marquees and huts were a great comfort in preventing the exposure which occurred after the action at Alma. I need hardly add that the surgeons have been fully employed all day, and are likely to continue so for several days to come.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, Nov. 6.

I have just returned from the field of the battle of yesterday. The numbers of the dead far exceed what were to be seen in a like space at Alma. From the very doors of the tents of the 2nd Division over the hills, on the high road, and along the ravine, down to the very valley below the Inkermann ruins, the earth is strewed with dead, wounded, arms and ammunition, clothing, and all the debris of the fight. At an angle of the hill which juts out, where the Inkermann valley opens to the plain along which winds the Tchernaya river, was sometime ago constructed a two-gun battery. The guns have been removed, but the work remains. Within, and for a wide distance in front and on each side of this battery, the ground is literally, not figuratively, covered with dead and dying. More of the grey colour of the Russian great coat meets the eye than does that of the hill or low brushwood itself. Here took place one of the fiercest struggles of the day. The Guards, who were occupying this work, were at one time overpowered by the Russian force, and compelled to retire; but after re-forming they returned to the attack, and not only expelled their assailants, but drove them over and down the sides of the hill with fearful slaughter. The breast work of the battery was 7 feet high, so that the Guards could not fire over the parapet, and no sandbags had been placed to enable them to do so. When the Russians for a short time held it, they seized a few lying about, and made a step, which was afterwards used against themselves. There has evidently been much neglect here—it seems like infatuation. The Russians themselves ought never to have been able to have advanced so far as they did, much more to have brought their guns with them. Now, when the evil has happened, the Ottoman troops are being actively employed in throwing a line of entrenchments around the camp; breastworks are being raised in various positions; and the high road, which winds down the side of the ravine to the head of the harbour, and up which the Russian troops easily marched, is being broken up and dyked in certain parts. Had it not been for the artillery which the enemy were able to bring up, our loss would have been considerably increased, and their advance repulsed at a much earlier hour of the day. In all probability, the leading troops of the Russians took up their position during the fog of the night, and concealed themselves among the bushes which cover the sides of the hills close in front of our advanced pickets.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

[FROM ONE OF OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS IN THE CRIMEA.]

BALAKLAVA, Nov. 7.

A very serious engagement took place on Sunday the 5th instant, in the rear of the extreme right of our position against Sebastopol. The enemy attacked us at an early hour in the morning. The combat lasted all day. At the termination the Russians fell back upon their old position, leaving us in possession of the battle field.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., the Russian army in our rear received strong reinforcements from Bessarabia. The Grand Duke Constantine came to its assistance with 45,000 men, many of them Poles. These troops were brought up in accelerated marches on carts and waggons. Their arrival increased the numbers of the Russian army in our rear to about 70,000 men.

The arrival of this army gave fresh hopes to the garrison of Sebastopol, and heated the enthusiasm of the Russian troops almost to madness. It was immediately resolved that a sortie from the fortress should be supported by a grand attack upon the entrenched position which the allied troops occupy on the plateau of Sebastopol.

The sortie was made in the morning of the 5th inst. It was directed against the French batteries on our left attack. The French repulsed the advancing columns of the besieged, pursued them in force to the walls of Sebastopol, and effected a lodgement in the fortress.

In the meanwhile the greater portion of the French, and almost the whole of the English army were occupied in another direction. Thus it happened that the French division which had entered Sebastopol, left unsupported, and unable to follow up their advantage, had to fall back and regain their position in the rear of the French batteries. These batteries were then within 150 yards from the Russian works. They have since been advanced to within 100 yards.

In combination with the sortie, the Russians attacked our position. A reconnaissance had some days before shown them its weakest point. After a feigned attack upon the centre and left of our Balaklava position, the bulk of their forces were pushed up the slanting ground to the left of our Lancaster battery, and in the rear of the camp of our Second Division.

Our line of sentinels had hardly given the alarm when our pickets were attacked and driven in. The ascent to our position was easy, and that position was moreover dominated by a conical hill, on which the Russians planted a 32 pounder battery. The position was not provided with artificial means of defence.

Immediately after the alarm, the 93th Regiment marched up to oppose the progress of the enemy, who had by this time gained the plateau. The 93th fired, charged, and drove them back at the point of the bayonet. Supported by the other regiments of the Second Division, by the Guards division and several regiments of the Third and the Light Divisions, the gallant 93th repulsed the successive and infuriated attacks of the Russians, who continually brought up fresh columns to replace those that retreated, broken and disspirited. It appears from the statements of the prisoners that 52,000 were brought up against us. Our own force at the commencement of the combat was under 10,000.

This unequal conflict continued for nearly four hours. The Russians gained not, our gallant troops lost not one inch of ground. At one time, when either side had exhausted their ammunition, they came to a hand to hand fight with bayonets and dirks, and hurled blocks of stone and fragments of rock at one another. Our artillery, which formed at the beginning of the combat, made great havoc in the Russian ranks and partly disabled their battery. But the Russian 32-pounders were almost equally destructive to our troops.

At half-past 9 a.m. General Canrobert came up with a strong corps of the troops under his command. He advanced at the head of a regiment of Zouaves, and took upon himself the burden of the fight. Our troops retired, and re-formed under the protection of our allies. The divisions were cut down to regiments, and the regiments to companies. Having re-formed, our troops took up a position in the rear of the French, ready, if necessary, again to advance and repulse the enemy.

The intervention of the French troops removed the grave doubts which up to that hour had weighed upon the day. The Russians, perceiving that we had received reinforcements, recoiled from the advance of the Zouaves. General Canrobert who headed this attack had his horse killed under him. By degrees the Russians became less frequent and spirited in their attacks. They commenced their retreat at half-past two, p.m. The firing continued until near sunset.

We took four Russian ammunition waggons and above four hundred prisoners. The number of their dead is estimated at six thousand. The loss of the French is thought to be considerable. Hitherto it has not been stated in numbers. Of our own troops, 642 were killed in the battle, 1,763 were wounded. Of officers 39 were killed and 76 wounded. The total of our killed and wounded, and the decrease of our effective force amounts to 2,330. Some corps suffered fearfully.

The Second Division is of about the strength of a complete regiment, and the three battalions of Guards muster to the strength of one effective battalion. The Second Division, which came into the Crimea 5,000 strong, consists now of 1,800 men.

The Third Division went into battle with 1,900 men. They had 600 killed and wounded.

It is impossible to speak too highly of the brotherly co-operation, the unflinching valour, and good generalship of the French. Our army are overjoyed with them.

The attack of the Russians having shown us the weak part of our position, the Commander-in-Chief has given orders immediately to strengthen that weak part. Fatigue parties of Turks are now at work upon it.

Her Majesty's ship Gladiator has come in from the fleet with important despatches for Lord Raglan. She left at once, after delivering her despatches, and receiving a reply. No authentic news has transpired as to the contents of those despatches.

The cannonade against Sebastopol is being vigorously kept up in either attack.

The weather is mild. Rain has fallen and is likely to fall.

BURIAL OF GENERAL STRANGWAYS.

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Nov. 6.

In front of the camp of the Fourth Division there is a square plot of ground enclosed by a low stone wall. It is the highest point on the hill, and, from the general appearance of the enclosure, it gives the impression of having at some time been used as a fort. From this site the spectator, on one side, looks down upon Sebastopol and its fortifications, its harbours, its ships, and the sea far beyond. On the other side the magnificent amphitheatre formed by the Yaila mountains is exposed to view—the lofty and rugged Chadir Dagh crowning the scene in the distance. Shortly before the hour of sunset this afternoon, when the sun, which had been bright all the morning, had retired behind a thick canopy of grey threatening clouds—just as a cold cheerless breeze was springing up, and came, as if complainingly, through the long lines of tents—and when a veil of mist and smoke, every minute becoming more obscure, was drawn over the town below—there advanced slowly and silently up the side of the hill a troop of Royal Horse Artillery, with a solitary gun-carriage. On the gun carriage rested a rough plank coffin, enclosing the mortal part of a good old soldier, General Fox Strangways. There was neither knell nor band, no funeral pall, no decoration, no attempt to cloak over the rough work of death. The dull distant boom of cannon, as gun replied to gun in the contending batteries, was the only music which accompanied the warrior to his last resting place. The troops of a whole division under arms gazed at the sad procession as it slowly passed their front in solemn silence. They too had lost their leader. On the crest of this Russian hill, in the centre of this low-walled detached plot of earth, lies the corpse of another British soldier well known to fame, Sir George Cathcart. Yet a little while, and by his side will be placed his brother in arms of yesterday; and then, amid prayers and tears, both will be consigned to the common earth. The retiring groups, among whom are some of England's bravest and noblest sons, as they pass away with bowed heads and stricken hearts, hope and believe that while the ashes of these warriors rest here, their glory will live in many a heart far away; and while they think sadly on those whom death has struck down, they know that there still remain others who will endeavour to achieve the glorious task entrusted to them by their country.

Russian Loss at Inkermann.

The *Russian Invalide* announces officially the Russian loss on the 5th November to be 42 officers and 2,909 men killed, and 206 officers and 5,791 men wounded, giving the total of 9,008 killed and wounded. The number of prisoners taken by the Allies is not given.

THE MEDICAL STAFF IN THE CRIMEA.—A correspondent, W. T. M., writes from Scutari "on board the steamer MARMORA," Nov. 9:—

I commanded one of the battalions engaged at the late battle of Inkermann on the 5th of November, and, as is usual apparently with the brigade of Guards, was not in the least exposed part of the field. My loss was dreadful, but, being wounded myself, I was obliged, ere the day was won, to relinquish the command. On the 6th I received an order to go on board ship to Scutari. The Marseilles steamer was at Balaklava, and, as I had met with very great kindness and attention from Captain Stewart, the commander, and sub-officers, I endeavoured, and was fortunate enough, to succeed in getting on board that ship. Shortly after the wounded began to come rapidly on board; one boat was followed by another till nearly 100 wounded men were put on board (this was the 7th). On the 8th about 50 more arrived; among these were many and various wounds of consequence, requiring unremitting attention and frequent dressing. Will it be believed that these 250 men had only one surgeon (Dr. Furlong) and a young assistant to attend them? They were sent on board without an orderly to help them, and with 100 bandages to dress their wounds. Dr. Furlong naturally went on alone to remonstrate, and when he said he had cut off the bandages with which the wounds had first been dressed, he was accused of wasting public property; he, however, succeeded in procuring another hundred bandages; but of cold silk, a very necessary thing in wound-dressing, he could only get a very scanty supply, and all the other necessaries in proportion, and was told he must wash the bandages if he wanted more. He insisted on having some orderlies; eight men were sent on board for that purpose, who turned out to be invalids themselves, and only two were of the smallest use, and they only driven to the duty by declaring I would put them in irons and try them by a court-martial if they did not do the duty for which they were put on board. For the number of sick in this ship six surgeons at least ought to have come with them, and ten or twelve strong men as orderlies. Dr. Furlong works from morning till night, and from night till morning; still it has been found impossible for him to do justice, even with the valuable and unrequited services of Mr. Paton, the medical officer of the Mauritius, who has been indefatigable, and to whom I am much indebted for his attention to my personal wants, as I would not take Dr. Furlong away from his more important charge. The men of the 4th off duty, instead of going to rest, or idling their time, are busying themselves between decks, and are really most useful; also six women of the 57th Regiment (who were left on board when the regiment landed at the Katcha on the 21st of September) have with great feeling come forward and have aided in feeding some of the helpless objects I have just seen lying on the deck. One man's wound has just been dressed (7th), a shell wound in the thigh, the first time since it was dressed on the field, four days ago. It is utterly impossible for the few medical officers on board to do justice to the wounded. This man came late yesterday, and all on these occasions must take their turn. One man died yesterday (8th), three during the night, and many another gallant spirit will depart ere we reach Scutari for want of that attention he cannot have under the circumstances. I would also allude to the imperfection, or rather the total failure, of the ambulance corps; they are no use whatever during the action, and very little after. They ought to be near the ground where the fighting is going on, and when half them drive to the rear; instead of which they remain quietly in camp till the action is over, and then, if quite safe, creep out and strive to appear to do something. I was hit on the groin, the heel, and badly wounded in the neck, and had to walk from the battlefield to the camp without receiving one, a space of two miles. My major, though mortally wounded, had to do so also; whereas much suffering might have been spared had they been near the ground; and they need not have waited to fill their carts, as ample opportunity offered, and many a life which fell a sacrifice to Russian brutality during their temporary success on that hard-fought field would have been saved had they been taken off the ground when they fell, or soon after. One officer had his leg dreadfully shattered by a shell. The surgeon had time only to put on a tourniquet to prevent his bleeding to death, and left him to attend to others. Another had his arm badly wounded, but not seriously. These two instances I can vouch for. The Russian vicarly after drove us back, and on repassing the ground the one had the tourniquet taken off, and bled to death; the other was covered with bayonet wounds, and quite dead. These might have been saved had the ambulance corps done their duty. The Russians kill all the wounded that fall into their power, yet when the game is over the ambulance people seem to me prefer loading their carts with Russian wounded to taking compassion on their own countrymen. Everything has been done by Capt. Stewart to encourage his men in their philanthropy; I would I could see any way of substantially rewarding them, and the exertions of the women of the 57th and Dr. Paton, who is also acting in a service for which he could look to no other reward beyond the Christian feelings which actuate him. Seven men have died on board since we embarked, and to this number more must be added, unless the hospital at Scutari is very much improved since my visit there last September.—[Times.]

THE WAR.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Nov. 13.

I forward my journal of our operations so far as they had advanced last night:

Nov. 8.—The morning fine, clear, and mild. Mist and rain in the afternoon. Wind southerly.

The entrenchments and outworks to protect the position on our right, occupied by the camp of the Second Division, are proceeding rapidly. A square redoubt is also being thrown up. This will command the approach by the ravine. Large parties of the Ottoman troops are assisting in these operations.

The more we reflect on the engagement of the 5th inst. the more perfidious appears to have been our position—the more narrow our escape. It was now that seven or eight battalions of the enemy's infantry were never engaged at all. They remained inactive spectators of the fight in the Inkermann valley, and in the adjoining part of the Tchernaya plain; but had the attacking troops secured their position on the high ground, which they several times reached—heights commanding the ravine and roads which lead directly up from the head of the harbour of Sebastopol and Inkermann valley to our right—these forces in reserve would have poured in, and could easily have cut off our troops in the batteries from the main body of the allied army. This object was well worth the severe and obstinate struggle made by the Russian commander. The cautious means which had been adopted in bringing up his guns, and the care taken in the disposition of his troops during the previous night—the feint made on the right flank, so carried out that it was well calculated to make the French troops believe that the real object of the attack was Balaklava, and thus to draw them from one of the farthest points from our right—the sortie on the left, in such force as necessarily to keep a large body of French troops engaged there—all combine to show a well organised plan, and to prove the importance attached to the undertaking. Under all the circumstances, although our loss has been most severe, we have reason to be grateful it was not worse. On discussing the action, it becomes difficult to discover any particular event or arrangement to which our success in maintaining the position may be attributed. The continued and determined courage of our troops, the timely assistance afforded by our gallant allies, and the carnage and fatigue in the ranks of the enemy, determined the cessation of the fighting. But there was no definite plan of resistance. Regiments, and even companies, appear to have acted independently—often without proper support. As the direction of attack varied, whatever force was nearest resisted it as it best could. Perhaps this was one of the consequences of so many general officers being put *hors de combat*. Lord Raglan came on the field, but seemed to give very few orders, and in speaking over the matter with many who were engaged in it, it is found difficult to establish by whose command any particular achievement was effected. It is equally difficult to understand why the Russian General did not bring fresh forces into action, so many of whom had remained inactive below.

We English are too confident, and do not sufficiently think it worth while to take precaution against surprise or casualties. Even now, while I write, there is another important ravine left unprotected by any entrenchment or other works. It is known as the Middle Ravine, being between the ravine before alluded to on the right, and another, called the Left Ravine, which leads direct to the South Port, or the Harbour, properly so called. The Middle Ravine leads into the valley at the foot of the low hills, on one of which the Round Tower and its batteries were placed. From the nature of the ground an attacking party coming up this pass, if seen in due time and prepared against, could be repulsed. But it only requires another fog, and other pickets not sufficiently needful to guard against surprise, and a force of the enemy might be in upon us almost before we could stand to our arms. Had the French taken possession of this post, notwithstanding its natural advantages for defence, they would have had breastworks across it, at least, before twenty-four hours were over.

The dead on the field of battle are not yet buried. Yesterday, while parties of our troops were engaged in this task, they were interrupted by the enemy throwing shells among them from the opposite heights, and to-day again the enemy has thrown shot in the same direction. Nearly the whole of our wounded have been transferred from the field hospitals to the transports at Balaklava, whence they will proceed to the hospitals at Scutari. Our own ambulance waggons, of which there are only two for each division, have been found exceedingly useful in effecting this object; but, in addition, the ambulance mules of the French, of which they possess a very great number, have been of essential service. The simplicity of the contrivance for the chair or bed on each side of the animal—the facility with which the patients may be carried through narrow passages, or over uneven or other difficult ground—the adroitness of the men in charge, who all belong to a corps regularly trained and organised for this particular duty—these, and other advantages, such as the applicability of the mules for other employments when not occupied in this duty, render this kind of conveyance particularly valuable as one portion of an ambulance establishment. A great number of the wounded Russians have also been moved on board ship. Perhaps it might have been better to have sent them back to Sebastopol; the moral effect among the other Russian troops might have been advantageous as regards ourselves, and we should have escaped the burden of their care and maintenance.

About 500 men return from Scutari to-day, and the six companies of the 46th Regiment disembark and march to the camp of the 4th Division. The troops from England, with their white belts, bright appointments, and clean appearance, present a curious contrast with the condition of those who have been for some time in the field, and who are running to greet the arrival of the reinforcement. As they march past the French lines several regimental bands turn out and play the British National Anthem, and the band of the 46th—the only English band, I believe, in camp—returns the compliment by the "Pastant pour la Syrie." The Frenchmen run forward and cheer their allies: the newcomers return the cheers, but are evidently a little bewildered by the variety of the costumes; and, as they pass the Zouaves, who are throwing up in the air their tasselled fezes, the expression of their features shows the doubt which is passing through their minds as to whether their enthusiastic friends are French or belong to the army of the Sultan.

Nov. 9.—Heavy rain last night from about 3 a.m. till daylight. Wind still from the south and south-west, and weather mild.

There is not much apparent change in the batteries. The French are said to be very far advanced in their mining operations. As to the fire in the English batteries, and the Russian batteries opposed to them, the mischief done by day appears to be repaired by night on both sides equally. Our shot must be more destructive, for when they are not stopped at the earthworks they pass on, and fall among the buildings of the town. Their gunnery continues excellent. Yesterday three large guns were broken and spilt up by shot striking against their muzzles, and two more have already been destroyed in a similar manner to-day. These guns can be replaced by others from the ships of the fleet without detriment to their armaments, for so many sailors have been landed to work the guns in the batteries, that, in case of a naval action against the forts or ships of the enemy, which on every account seems most unlikely to happen at present, there would still remain more guns on board than could be conveniently brought into use. All is surmise as to the future plan of the campaign. One supposed course to be adopted is to wait for the arrival of the French reinforcements, and, when they are complete, to attack the army which is harassing us in our rear, so as to disperse them altogether, or at least to cut off their communication with the town and roadstead of Sebastopol. Another course is to make a combined naval and military attack on the large fort and other batteries on the heights of the north side of the roadstead. The former appears to be the more feasible plan. An attack against the north heights would require a very large force to give it a reasonable chance of success. The Star Fort is a very extensive and strong work, and is so sunk that it cannot be seen from the ships, and their shells would consequently be thrown in a great measure at random. Moreover, in anticipation of an attack in this direction, guns of enormous range have been mounted, looking seaward; and very strong earthwork batteries have been raised to resist a force coming on the land side. We could more easily rout the army in the plain. Conferences are being held between the respective commanders-in-chief, and to-day a general council of war is to assemble at head-quarters. We shall know the result of the deliberations in due time. We all understand that we are to remain here, whatever the sacrifice, until Sebastopol is either taken or destroyed. It is equally understood that the Russians are determined to destroy the town and its forts themselves, rather than they should fall into our hands, and that we should establish ourselves in winter quarters there. How the troops will be able to bear the continued exposure in the trenches, and on these bare heights, without huts or other protection against cold and weather, remains to be seen. The winter clothing has not arrived yet. There is great difficulty in procuring fuel, so much so that it has been a matter of constant watching to prevent the men from carrying off, stick by stick, the spare fascines from the batteries for this absolutely necessary purpose. Any stray piece of wood is at once seized upon and carried off: empty ammunition boxes, shell and rocket cases disappear rapidly. The commissariat have no rations of wood or other fuel to issue. Some of this urgent necessity for fuel might easily be avoided. For instance the coffee is issued to the men in a green state, so that the soldier is driven to employ his little firing, first for roasting the coffee, and then for cooking it afterwards. The company's kettles have become worn out, or been lost on the road. Each man therefore cooks for himself in his own canteen, and there is thus neither economy of fuel, nor is the food so nutritious. It is said that large stores of wood and charcoal can be easily procured on the opposite coast of Asia Minor. The French manage in some way better than we do: they have their newly baked bread, and from time to time they carry loaves to the English soldiers, and exchange them for ration biscuit which they employ shortly, when pounded up, for the purpose of thickening their soup. The French have an advantage over us too in the condition of their horses, both private and public. Perhaps the absence of the great care to which our horses have been accustomed at home may tell with more effect. As to the bat horses and other public animals there is this difference between us: ours are looked after by soldiers taken from the ranks at random, whether they know anything of the duty or not; in the French service, the men who have care of them are regularly educated for that particular work.

Nov. 10.—Heavy continuous rain last night; weather still mild. The morning is fine, but about 11 a.m. rain falls, and continues occasionally during the remainder of the day. Strong westerly gales in the afternoon.

Nov. 11.—We were last night visited by a storm which, for a time, threatened to carry away tents and everything in the camp before it. As before mentioned, there had been occasional squalls of rain and wind from the west and south-west during the afternoon. The sun set in a deep bank of clouds, and, as it disappeared, threw a reddened glare on the scudding vapours above and over the distant range of mountains. Darkness speedily followed. The general condition of the atmosphere led to the prognostication of a tempestuous night. The storm soon

menced soon after eight o'clock, and about nine o'clock amounted to a gale. On these exposed heights it seemed a hurricane. The strength of the wind was so great that it was with difficulty the men could keep erect against it. Some tents were soon blown over, and, amid the darkness, the confused din of shouting, heard between the gusts, of men striving together to secure others which were threatening to fall; the flapping of canvas, the hammering of pegs as they became loosened; the rushing by of loose pieces of the small brushwood gathered by the soldiers to make their fires, and other small articles; all—enclosed, as it were, in the general roar of the wind—formed a stirring combination not easily forgotten. The force of the gale came on so suddenly that the camp fires had to be hastily extinguished to prevent the lighted fragments of wood from setting fire to the tents. The gale lasted about four hours, and, as soon as it subsided, was followed by heavy rain which continued all night, and is still falling. We dread hearing of casualties among our ships. The troops who have been lying out in the trenches or on picket, exposed to the full effects of the weather, as they return with their clothes and solitary blanket wet through, to tents and ground all equally saturated, without any change of coat or covering, appear miserable objects. It is announced that a second blanket will shortly be issued to each soldier.

Nov. 12.—The rain ceased away last evening, and the night, though chilly, was dry. This morning is sunny and clear; a strong wind is blowing from the south-east. Weather mild.

An order in front to the troops to be ready to turn out at a moment's notice. A movement expected against Balaklava, but does not take place.

It is to-day stated that the whole of the French reinforcements have now arrived. Some are landing at Balaklava, the greater part in the two bays near Cape Khersene. There is a confident belief that General Canrobert will not allow them to continue long unemployed, and that the Russian army in the plain will shortly hear of their coming.

Many of the British officers have been removed during the last few days on account of illness, and for the sake of better means of treatment, from the camp to board ship. Among others, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge has been compelled to relinquish for a time the command of his division on account of indisposition. Brigadier-General Sir John Campbell has temporary command of the 4th Division; Brigadier-General Codrington of the Light Division. I regret to say that several fatal cases of cholera have occurred among the men of the 49th Regiment since their arrival in camp.

The following General Orders have been issued from Lord Raglan's head quarters:

"The commander of the forces has reason to think that the advanced sentries are not sufficiently quick in stopping those who approach them from the enemy's side, or in firing upon those who do not answer them in a satisfactory manner.

"Men, both on foot and on horseback, have come up close to the sentries, and have been permitted to turn away without being questioned or fired upon.

"The only persons who may be permitted to approach them from the enemy's side are deserters and flags of truce; but these must be made to halt, and not allowed to come forward until a party from the picket has arrived to receive them.

"When patrols go out in front, or officers go forward to reconnoitre, notice should be given to the sentries, and all this should be fully explained to them when they are posted."

From the following order, published by Lord Raglan, we may suppose that some arrangement has been come to by Prince Menschikoff, which will have the effect of preventing a recurrence of the inhuman proceedings referred to:

"GENERAL ORDER.

"October 11.

"When burying the dead, if the party so employed will hoist a black flag, the enemy will not fire on the party."

British Camp, Nov. 14.

We have been visited by a storm this day which will serve to organize by any who witnessed its effects.

During yesterday the wind continued Westerly, and rain fell at intervals until the evening, when the weather changed, and a cold, appeared to be coming up. We, however, were doomed to be disappointed. In the course of the night the wind rose, and, coming at first in squalls, gradually swelled into a continuous gale. About 6 a.m. the gale was blowing with such force that every one in the camp was on the alert, trying to secure their tents by driving pegs which had become loosened, or taking off some of the certain upon them by placing large stones upon the cords.

The scene in the camp was one of extreme desolation; the roar of the tempest prevailing a voice from being heard, and no sign of brightness in the dull, dreary clouded sky to hold out a hope of abatement—the total absence of all shelter—the chilling cold—and the impossibility of all fire to cook the food, by no means inviting from its soiled condition—officers and men sitting on their fallen tents and striving to keep their few articles of clothing and bedding together, by bundling them beneath the dripping canvas—all, at intervals, driving showers of hail and rain, or snow—all combined to make up a scene of abject discomfort, happily not often experienced even in camp life. Though not so fatal in its consequences, it presented for a time all the appearance of misery seen on the deck of a disturbed ship at sea. The condition of the sick and wounded, exposed by the falling of the hospital tents, was especially lamentable. Happily the flow of the latter remained to camp; they had been all but the few casualties of the preceding day or two, which had occurred in the batteries, removed to the hospitals at ships at Balaklava. The firing of the siege guns, and those from the enemy's batteries, ceased as if by mutual consent. The hammering of pegs was the wearing elements.

Between 3 and 4 o'clock p.m., the force of the storm abated, but it had become more cold. The line of mountains which last night had presented their natural form were now white from the snow, which had fallen upon their summits and sides. The wind, which at the commencement of the gale was S. with East, and which, from its height, was blowing from the South-West, had veered still further round, and now came from the North-West.

It was a curious fact that some of the tents of the Ottoman troops were blown away. These they stuck as tight as limpets to the rock, and not unlike them in form. They are not so well as we are, the canvas is not so strong, the pole not so well finished or iron-bound—yet there they were, up-right and white, while ours were being carried away by the wind, or were lying prostrate in the mud. I am inclined to attribute this fact (for it is the difference in shape of the two tents. The Ottoman tent is broader at the base than the English tent, but not more than two-thirds in height, so that the canvas being more sloping offered less resistance to the wind.

The stormy night is succeeded by a comparatively calm and fine morning. It is very cold, and the snow on the mountains tells us that winter is come at last. Rather a cheerless prospect, for we have not sufficient wood for cooking, much less for bathing ourselves or our horses; very few of us have the baggage out of our transports, and the winter clothing has not yet arrived. And yet judging from the number of fur coats and caps found in the houses of the inhabitants, and other evidences of precautions against severe cold, we shall require no less protection than our troops are used to have for a winter in North America. Will the Russians permit us to take winter quarters in Sebastopol? I presume that we get possession of the city with a probability of being able to retain it, will they not resort to the old military tactics of 1812? Such are the questions which vex our minds.

From the higher ground there large steamers be seen ashore, close to where our fleet are lying in the bay above Cape Quarantine. Two of them are dismasted, and appear total wrecks. One, from the depth of its hull, appears to be a frigate, the second seems a large merchant transport. A small steamer is actively employed near them, so that no doubt the crews have been saved. But the condition of the ships themselves appears hopeless. The French fleet appears to have escaped. The masts of many vessels can be seen rising above the cliffs which flank the two harbours or bays, known by the names of Kazach and Kamesch; they have, we hope, been protected from injury by the projecting land of Cape Khersonese. The names of various ships and persons lost, and the amount of stores sunk, are mentioned in camp, but I forbear repeating them as yet.

Nov. 16.—A strong wind continues blowing from the South-West, but the day is fine and dry. The temperature is very cold. The loss of the winter clothing from England (which was on board the Prince steamer, is quite a calamity just at the present time. The centre of the English soldier is an inordinate a protection, and the cloth of the great coat so inferior in quality, its properties so certainly, that he has not half the advantage of warmth which the soldiers of the other three nations in the field obtain from those articles of dress. The Russian soldier is provided with a close-fitting cloth cap for the head to cover all the ears, and the cheeks, the neck, and over the chest and stomach a covering of cloth lined with lines of coarse but soft texture. Another article of dress furnished to the English soldier in winter deserves attention—I allude to his gloves. It is often a very important matter that his fingers should be warm and free to act at a moment's notice in handling his firelock. Hooded fingers cannot take this observation rap, so do it properly on the ripple of a firelock with any security or precision. The white woollen English "mit," or glove, has its mother too upon it, the wool finds its way between them, so shuts and shuts shops, the hand. The English soldier generally adopts his gloves larger than he requires them; he then cuts them up by placing them in hot water, and thus in some degree obviates the inconveniences of the large mother. The mittens of the Russian soldier are made of thick black cloth of close texture, the four fingers being in one compartment. They are furnished with loops which enable him, when he wishes to use his firelock, to suspend them from a fastening placed for the purpose near the collar of his coat. The Russian soldiers wear thick, white trowsers under their trousers; they, as seen in the instances of the dead on the field, were apparently made of a mixture of linen and cotton were together; and were, though

by no means fine or close in texture, soft, cosy and warm. Many of our men emptied themselves of those articles of clothing which they had craved to be of any use to their owners, after the battle of the 5th instant.

There was another sortie made against the French last evening, but it was quickly repulsed. No firing is going on in the siege batteries; and it is understood that no more have been given by our gunners to fire only when fire is made against them from the Russian works.

APPEARANCE OF SEBASTOPOL

If a traveller familiar with Sebastopol and its environs were now to take his stand on one of the heights held by our outposts, and to look down upon it, knowing all that has occurred, undoubtedly one of the first impressions made would be that resulting from the little change effected in the appearance of the town and its fortifications, notwithstanding the summer of shot, shell and other destructive missiles discharged against it for more than a month past. The next thing that would attract his notice, perhaps, would be the number of earthworks and batteries erected on the South side of the town and dockyards, and on the high points as far as Careening Bay, also the various preparations in the town itself, and upon the North side of the sunken and heights above. But the principal facts remain unchanged and apparently as perfect as ever. The great Fort St. Nicholas, seen in reverse, with fantastic arcades, extending in long concave lines, one story above another; the lofty but comparatively narrow stone tower of Fort Paul, with its two wings—exhibit no change. The rows of dockyard buildings, the storehouses, the lofties and more spacious buildings in the town itself, preserve their original outlines. Those buildings from their elevation and structure particularly attract the guns on looking at the town. One of these, the hospital, is crowned by a dome covered with bright lead or other shining metal; another has the appearance of a Gothic church with several pinnacles rising from its roof; the third has the form of a Grecian temple, and from its proportions, position and columns, appears to be a copy of the Parthenon. These seem to have been unheeded; but the last mentioned building exhibits by its partly stripped roof the effects of the late hurricane. The lower buildings, consisting of private residences, public offices, or warehouses, show here and there an opening made by the entrance of a shot, but seldom exhibit any more extensive damage. To the left, but with abundant evidences of recent, several lines of one-storied barracks, a considerable number of bomb and other buildings, a few large, but generally of an inferior character, in their rear, are here in a state of ruin. The only works of a more imposing kind which show the effect produced upon them by the guns of the besiegers are, on the right the Round Tower, fattened by the English, and on the left the 30-gun Fort, which terminated the South end of the bomb-proof wall of the town, and which has been destroyed by the French. These are the only two stone works which are in a dilapidated condition. Of course the forts on the North shore of the roadstead show no change, as they have not been touched, excepting Fort Constantine on the entrance; and from the Genoese, although it is said to have been severely shaken and to be occupied up within by timber, no alteration can be perceived. The heavy guns on its roof remain as before. The effects of the firing are manifest only in the immediate neighbourhood of the siege batteries, which the effects of the besiegers, as well as of the besieged, have been concentrated—namely, the earthwork batteries which each antagonist has mutually raised in the course of the period which has elapsed since the 28th of September last.

RUSSIAN GUNNERY.

There is no advantage to be gained by disguising the fact that the Russian gunnery is excellent. They work the guns quickly, manage to make metal of the same weight throw their shot further than we do, and aim with great precision. They depress and elevate guns fully and easily, and many things our artillerymen will tell you cannot be done, or rather are not done, at Woolwich, it is very evident the Russians are able to do at Sebastopol. Their earthwork batteries, which we thought lightly of, and permitted to be thrown up without any attempt at opposition, are of the most substantial character, and as good in every respect as our own. Some of these were not unmounted on our arrival, and we could easily have accepted, and, in a great degree, prevented their construction by the use of shot or two guns. But it was apparently calculated, over confidently, the grand crash from all the guns opening at once, and the 1,700 of their fire, would have produced so appalling an effect on the courage and endurance of the Russian artillerymen, as to be hoped it would physically on the batteries and fortifications. In regretting that this course was adopted, it cannot be forgotten that those remarks are blasted by the knowledge that it is a great measure proved a failure; but it could scarcely appear that a second judgment ought to have been formed if before by our engineers as to the power of resistance of the Russian earthworks against our fire, when the fire from the English batteries commenced and was constantly remarked, that the works which were so

industriously thrown up before our guns opened; but the fact is, the guns in the most elaborate of these have never since been silenced. So with the other earth batteries opposed to ours. It is not so on the left; there the most advanced battery of the Russians has been silenced. This has happened because, from the nature of the ground, the French have been enabled to make regular approaches, and, therefore, were certain of eventually silencing the work. But, even at this point, the Russians have thrown up a retrenchment, which is nearly as destructive to the French works as the former battery.

THE ENGLISH BATTERIES.

It is quite evident that our batteries are not sufficient for the work at this season, and under all the circumstances in which we are placed, there must be a move made elsewhere. As long as a Russian army remains outside continually, to recruit the garrison in the fortress, we shall continue, as we have been doing for some time past, throwing long shot—we sometimes knocking over one of their guns, they sometimes knocking over one of ours, and each killing a few men, but without making any material impression or progress in the chief undertaking itself. The French on their side can do more; but, inch by inch, their progress will be severely contested. And when an entry shall be forced, and possession gained of part of the town, and the fortifications of the South side of the roadstead, the powerful and numerous batteries on the North side, and the ships which still remain intact, will by no means permit undisturbed possession of the acquisition. From these considerations, two objects remain to be effected, in order to ensure the final accomplishment of the grand purpose of the campaign. These are, firstly, the dispersion of the army in our rear, and the closing of the communication between the garrison in Sebastopol and all forces on its outside; and, secondly, the expulsion of the Russian troops occupying the Northern heights, and the destruction of the strong works placed there. On these seem to depend the taking of the fortress, and the possibility of securing possession of it. And for this work we must wait till the reinforcements are completed, so that we may proceed upon it with any proper prospect of success.

HEALTH OF OUR TROOPS.

Nov. 17.—The health of the men, considering their exposure and privations, has continued more favourable than could have been expected. Cholera has not wholly left the camp. The 49th Regiment have been and are still suffering from the disease. Their sick list is at present very heavy. Assistant-Surgeon Nowlis, of the 55th Regiment, is suffering from cholera, and is in almost a hopeless state. Dysenteric diarrœa prevails, and many staff and regimental officers have had to leave the field to proceed to Scutari for change of scene, and better medical treatment than could be provided in camp. The Rev. Mr. Stothen, whose name has been frequently mentioned, as that he has become quite a public character, is among this number. One of the assistants of the late Rt. Hon. Sidney, so long the energetic employé of Mr. Sheben, Mr. Bagshaw, will also be compelled to leave from illness. The Ottoman troops are dying very fast: they appear to be half-starved. They frequently wander through the English camps, and are glad to obtain fragments of the men's rations of meat or biscuit. I am not aware what the reserve is of the ordinal deficiency in regard to food among them; but the existence of the evil is painfully manifest.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

A medical officer, in the following letter, which has been obligingly communicated to us, comments with just severity on the General Order, relating to his department, issued by Lord Raglan on the 11th of October. That document has already appeared in the *Daily News*:

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, Nov. 19.

My dear ——,—The newspapers, I see, have published a general order of Lord Raglan, dated Oct. 11, animadverting strongly against the medical department, on account of an instance of neglect which he observed on the part of one officer of that body. "The name of this officer who was guilty of this gross neglect is known to the Commander of the Forces. He will not now publish it, but he warns him, &c." The injustice of leaving an order to "animadvert strongly upon the conduct of the medical department," because of "an instance" of neglect in an individual of that department is too manifest to require comment. Give a dog a bad name—you know the rest of the saying. The medical arrangements have been defective through bad administration of its affairs at headquarters—the defects have been brought to light. Perhaps in the investigation which may follow, it may be proved that the assistance was not rendered which might have been rendered if the medical arrangements to be effective, but, to divert the storm of public indignation, let it be known, that the military authorities have had to find fault also—nay more, that they seize every opportunity to evince their careful supervision of the sick and wounded, and their comforts. Could not a less transparent veil have been thrown over the true state of matters connected with this painful subject? Why were there no animadversions in General Orders about the absence of ambulances—and all the medical and surgical requisites—at Alma, in the field hospitals, and afterwards in the transports? Why was it left to the animadversions of "Our own correspondents," and the comments of the press, and the outcry of the public, to elucidate those deficiencies, and neglectful arrangements?

But the correspondent when sending a copy of the General Order, should have also sent the facts of the case; he might easily have obtained them, as the Order caused general conversation on the subject. It is quite true that certain sick soldiers were sent down to Balaklava, and that they had to wait a long time in the arabas before they could get on board ship, and that a medical officer was in charge. But it is equally true, that no boats could be got for their conveyance on board, and that this was the cause of their detention in the arabas. The medical officer had no authority to procure the boats: it was the Quartermaster General's department, whose office it was to have had them ready and in waiting. The very fact that this department was by this Order for the first time directed to do something that they ought to have

been doing long since, carried with it animadversion on two bodies though not expressed by name; first, that which ought to have done the duty omitted of procuring the boats to convey the sick from the shore to the ships; second, that which ought to have ascertained and known that this duty was done. "When a convoy of sick is sent from the camp, either to the hospital, or to be placed on board ship, it is henceforward to be accompanied not only by a medical officer, but likewise by a deputy-assistant-quartermaster-general of the division, who will precede it to the place of deposit, and take such steps as may insure the due reception and care of the men confided to his charge." Now whether from the difficulty of obeying an order both to accompany and precede a convoy at one and the same time, or from some other cause, certain it is, that except for a few days after the order was issued, no quartermaster-general takes the trouble of accompanying the sick; and equally certain it is that not a week has elapsed since there was another instance of some sick being detained for nearly four hours at Balaklava for want of provision being made for their removal on board ship; these circumstances have doubtless, however, not met Lord Raglan's observation. Thus it is, every day brings proof that we obviate exigencies as they arise; our neighbours, more educated and knowing in military art, provide against exigencies. Why, working and other parties going to the trenches on dark or hazy nights have constantly lost their way—lost their time—had narrow escapes from walking into the enemy's lines—because there was no one to show the way. I know of one occasion in which an officer of the Quartermaster-General's department was sent to a certain spot, and asked his way to it when he reached Captain Gordon's battery; he was quite surprised to learn, when told to go on to the advanced work, that there was any advanced work at all, though it had been completed long before. But presently Lieutenant and Captain Lord Dunkellin, being very near-sighted, and having no one to show him the way, walks into one of the enemy's pickets, and nearly carries with him a sergeant and a party of men too. Lord Dunkellin is taken prisoner, and, of course, in future an officer of the Quartermaster-General's department will accompany all parties, armed or otherwise, going to the front. Need I say that by this time these staff officers as much accompany parties going to the trenches or other works in front as they accompany the convoys of sick to Balaklava?

It is wrong, however, to speak disparagingly of our Quartermaster-General's department, for every individual who has the good fortune to be connected with it receives his meed of praise in the Commander-in-Chief's despatches. Captains who had never done a day's duty in the department—who had never studied for it before the campaign commenced—suddenly have been found to act "in the most efficient manner, and to display the greatest ability as well as aptitude for their offices," and Lord Raglan "considers it his duty especially to recommend them." Not so with any one in the medical department; in the whole of Lord Raglan's celebrated Alma despatch of the 23rd of September there is not an allusion, even the most remote, to such a being as a medical officer. The name of the head of the department in the army of the east, Dr. Hall, is very ungraciously tacked on at the very end of an addendum, or second despatch, dated September the 26th. Even then the existence of the medical officers—men who had toiled and suffered physically and mentally—as a body is ignored. There is no praise for them or their conduct: only Dr. Hall merits Lord Raglan's appreciation for his exertions in the discharge of his onerous duties. In this despatch of September 28th his lordship lays before his grace the Duke of Newcastle the names of officers noticed by the generals of divisions. Take the first on the list, and if you will also take the trouble to read it, you will find there is not one officer, whether commanding a regiment, or a wing, not a troop, or a field battery—nor one belonging either to his personal or departmental staff, Quartermaster-General or Adjutant-General—of whom Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown does not "speak in the highest terms." No exception: "honourable men, all honourable men." I beg pardon, there is one exception: one officer of his staff was not named. The principal medical officer of the division is not named; yet First Class Staff Surgeon Dr. Alexander has been doing the duty of a deputy inspector of hospitals in charge of a division ever since it landed in Bulgaria; is one of the most intelligent and energetic men in the medical department of the army; has seen much active service at the Cape and elsewhere; has been indefatigable, whether as a directing head in the management of the medical affairs of the division, or, when need were, in the practical operations of surgery; and, though I could not say he has never met with rebuffs or reproofs since he has been in the Light Division, those very reproofs are his best praises, for they were made by men unable at the time to measure his conduct: they were made in consequence of his independent efforts to have the hospitals of his division in an effective state, and the sick and wounded properly regarded and provided for. But of Captain Feather, whose onerous duties consist in keeping a roster, or in carrying a message, "Lieut.-General Sir George Brown speaks in the highest terms." Perhaps Dr. Alexander's services may, through the higher medical authorities, have been brought to the notice of the Director-General of the Medical Department; but he cannot bestow honours or distinctions, give rewards, or break through the established rules for promotion. Other monopolies have fallen; and perhaps some day in England, the monopoly and exclusive privileges of admission into the Temple of Fame will be broken up also.

Very different is the conduct of our French Allies to their medical officers. They mete out decorations and honours to those who deserve them with even-handed justice, whatever may be the nature of their duties in the field; they acknowledge no distinctions of private or social rank in the brotherhood of arms. In the Russian service the medical officer takes a considerably higher relative military rank than in our service; and the surgeon of the unfortunate Tiger felt the benefit of this in the increased consideration he met with when detained as a prisoner. In the Ottoman service medical officers are at a low ebb; but it was only during the late Sultan's time that any plan was organised for their education. Thanks to the French, a school of medicine was established at Constantinople during the reforming reign, and the greatest effort has been made by the present Sultan, in imitation of his father, to give the medical officers in the Turkish service a higher tone and position. The English medical officers take a position above the Turkish in consideration perhaps, but by no means equivalent to that in any other European army. Now I am quite convinced that, as a body, British military surgeons are equals, as surgeons and as gentlemen, with those of any other nation. In Bulgaria and in the Crimea they have worked hard day and night; and many have fallen victims to their zeal. But what public notice has ever been taken of their exertions beyond the commendations which have appeared from time to time in the remarks of those observing men, the correspondents of the press? They have spoken of them—the sick have spoken their gratitude—the friends of the sick have written. But what has the Commander-in-Chief in his numerous recommendations, what has the "Fountain of all Honour" done for them? Medical officers have served their Queen and the public service as faithfully as any other officers, to whatever department they may belong. They have lived and moved among men engaged in deadly strife with cholera and disease—they have marched with their regiments up the heights of the Alma under the fire of shot and shell—they have encountered the same risk as others in the trenches—and though their mission has been to heal, instead of to wound, do they not deserve encouragement for their intrepidity and exertions? And after the excitement of the battle field has passed—when others are talking over the events of the day, and lamenting their missing brethren—are the medical officers, whose avocations call them to remain and to act amid the heart-rending sights and sufferings of the wounded, of no account? not worthy of a name or a notice beyond an occasional remark in a private letter? The people of England are just, and to them the surgeons of the army must leave their cause, not to their military rulers. Noble lords and generals of division—though not too far removed from medical officers not to seek their aid when pursued by the ills of disease or those of the battle—are far too distant in their exclusive ideas of distinction, to advocate the admission of "doctors" to a participation with them in the privileges of honour and fame.

It would be idle not to admit that among the medical officers, as among other officers, there exist very different degrees of industry, talent, and interest in the exercise of their professional duties. The motives which animate men in their work are various; but among them all, there is scarcely one, perhaps, so little costly, and yet so effective, as the distribution of marks of public approval—come in what shape they may—when occasion calls for them. The zeal of the zealous will often flag if it remain long unnoticed and disregarded; especially, as often happens, when exerted side by side with others, who exhibiting no such exertion, yet arrive at promotion equally as soon, if not in advance, as their more earnest competitors. Napoleon the First knew this fact, and the public cruize raised to Baron Larrey, at the Val de Grace at Paris, is a monument creditable to the military surgery of France, creditable to the country, and a tribute not forgotten in all probability by many an aspirant among our Allies at this moment.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE TO THE ARMY, OCCASIONED BY THE BATTLE OF INKERMANN.

The following general order has been issued by Field-Marshal Lord Raglan:

"Head-Quarters before Sebastopol, Dec. 24, 1854.

"The Commander of the Forces has the greatest satisfaction in publishing to the army two despatches from the Minister of War, the one expressing the Queen's entire approbation of the conduct of the troops at the battle of Inkermann, the other signifying her Majesty's gracious intention of conferring a medal upon all the officers and soldiers of the army who have been engaged in the arduous and brilliant campaign in the Crimea.

"The Commander of the Forces congratulates the army on receiving so distinguished a mark of her Majesty's favour and high appreciation of their gallant exertions; and he deems it his duty at the same time to draw the particular attention of all to the following passage in the Duke of Newcastle's despatch of the 27th instant: 'Let not any private soldier in the ranks believe that his conduct is unheeded—the Queen thanks him—his country honours him.'"

"War Department, Nov. 27, 1854.

"My Lord,—I received on the 22nd instant your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of this month, communicating the intelligence of the glorious battle of the 5th, in which a determined attack by vastly superior numbers of the enemy was completely repulsed by the unflinching steadiness and gallantry of the Allied Armies.

"I immediately laid before the Queen the details of this important victory, and it is now my grateful duty to express to your Lordship her Majesty's high appreciation of the noble exertions of her troops in a conflict which is unsurpassed in the annals of war for preserving valour and chivalrous devotion. The strength and fury of the attacks, repeatedly renewed by fresh columns with a desperation which appeared to be irresistible, were spent in vain against the unbroken lines and the matchless intrepidity of the men they had to encounter. Such attacks could only be repulsed by that cool courage under circumstances the most adverse, and that confidence of victory which have ever animated the British army.

"The ranks of the Alma proved that no advantages of position can withstand the impetuous assault of the army under your command. The heights of Inkermann have now shown that the dense columns of an entire army are unable to form the ranks of less than one-fourth their numbers in the hand-to-hand encounters with the bayonet which characterised the bloody day.

"Her Majesty has observed with the liveliest feelings of gratification the manner in which the troops of her ally, the Emperor of the French, came to the aid of the divisions of the British army engaged in this exasperated contest. The Queen is deeply sensible of the cordial co-operation of the French Commander-in-Chief, General Canrobert, and the gallant conduct of that distinguished officer, General Bosquet, and her Majesty recognises in the ardour with which the men of both nations encouraged each other in their united charge, proofs of the esteem and admiration mutually engendered by the campaign, and the cause of attachment thus produced.

"The Queen desires that your lordship will receive her thanks for your conduct throughout this noble and successful struggle, and that you will take measures for making known her no less warm approval of the services of all the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who have so gloriously won by their blood, freely shed, fresh honours for the army of a country which sympathises so deeply with their privations and exertions in its glorious victories and exults in their fame. Let not any private soldier in those ranks believe that his conduct is unheeded. The Queen thanks him, his country honours him.

"Her Majesty will anxiously expect the further despatch in which your lordship proposes to name those officers whose services have been especially worthy notice. In the meantime, I am commanded by her Majesty to signify her approbation of the admirable behaviour of Lieut.-General Sir George Brown, and her regret that he has been wounded in the action. Her Majesty has received with feelings of no ordinary pleasure your lordship's report of the manner in which Lieutenant-General his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge distinguished himself. That one of the illustrious members of her royal house should be associated with the toils and glories of such an army, is to the Queen a source of great pride and congratulation.

"To Major Bentinck, Major General Codrington,* Brigadier-Generals Adams, Torrens, and Buller, your lordship will be pleased to convey the Queen's sympathy in their wounds, and thanks for their services.

"To the other officers named by your lordship, I am directed to express her Majesty's approbation. The gallant conduct of Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans has attracted the Queen's especial thanks. Weak from a bed of sickness, he rose at the sound of the battle—not to claim his share in prominent command, but to aid with his veteran counsel and assistance the junior officer upon whom, in his absence, had devolved the duty of leading his division.

"Proud of the victory won by her brave army—grateful to those who wear the laurels of this great conflict—the Queen is painfully affected by the heavy loss which has been incurred, and deeply sensible of what is owing to the dead. Those illustrious men cannot indeed, receive the thanks of their sovereigns which have so often cheered the soldier in his severest trials, but their blood has not been shed in vain. Laid low in their grave of victory, their names will be cherished for ever by a grateful country, and posterity will look upon the list of officers who have fallen as a proof of the ardent courage and zeal with which they pointed out the path of honour to no less willing followers.

"The loss of Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir George Cathcart is to the Queen and to her people a cause of sorrow which even dims the triumph of this great occasion. His loyalty, his patriotism, and self-devotion were not less conspicuous than his high military reputation. One of a family of warriors, he was an honour to them and an ornament to his profession. Arrived in his native land from a colony in which he had succeeded in restoring peace and contentment, he obeyed, at a moment's notice the call of duty, and hastened to join that army in which the Queen and the country fondly hoped he would have lived to win increased renown.

"The death of Brigadier-General Strangways and Brigadier-General Goldie has added to the sorrow which mingles in the rejoicing of this memorable battle.

"The Queen sympathises in the loss sustained by the families of her officers and soldiers, but her Majesty bids them reflect with her, and derive consolation from the thought that they fell in the sacred cause of justice and in the ranks of a noble army. I have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's obedient humble servant,

"NEWCASTLE

"Field Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c."

"My Lord,—I have received the Queen's commands to signify to your lordship her Majesty's gracious intention to confer a medal upon all the officers and soldiers of the army who have been engaged in the arduous and brilliant campaign in the Crimea.

"This medal will bear on it the word 'Crimea,' with an appropriate device—a design for which has been ordered to be prepared.

"It is also her Majesty's desire that clasps with the names of 'Alma' and 'Inkermann,' inscribed upon them, shall be accorded to those who have been in either or both of those hard-fought battles, and that the same means shall in future be borne on the colours of all the regiments which were engaged on those bloody and glorious days.

"Your lordship will be pleased to convey to the army this royal command—an additional proof of her Majesty's appreciation of its noble services, and her sympathy with its valour and renown.

"I have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's obedient humble servant,

"NEWCASTLE.

"Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.

"By order,

(Signed) "J. B. B. ESTCOURT, Adj.-Gen."

* "Major-General Codrington is erroneously stated to have been wounded."

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, before Sebastopol,
December 20, 1854.

No. 1. The Commander of the Forces has much pleasure in publishing, for the information of the officers of the army, the following letter from the Secretary-at-War:

War-office, Nov. 29, 1854.

My Lord,—Her Majesty's government having deemed it advisable that every officer, as well as soldier, should receive articles of winter clothing at the public expense, I have the honour to request that your lordship will be pleased to issue to every officer in the army under your command a sheepskin coat, a fur cap, two pairs of flannel drawers, two pairs of woollen socks, two woollen jerseys, and two pairs of gloves, if required by them.

The most of these articles have been already shipped from this country, and the remainder will be forwarded as soon as they are ready.

I have the honour to be, my lord,
Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,
SIDNEY HERBERT.

Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c., &c.

No. 2. The following letter from the Military Secretary to Viscount Hardinge, General Commanding-in-Chief, is published for the information of the troops:

Horse Guards, Nov. 24, 1854.

My Lord,—I have received the directions of the General Commanding-in-Chief, to acquaint your lordship, that her Majesty has been pleased to approve of the addition of three supernumerary lieutenants, and three supernumerary ensigns, to each of the regiments of the line serving with the army under your lordship's command.

I have the honour to be, my lord,
Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,
C. YORKE.

Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c., &c.

In consequence of the urgent representations made by some of the medical officers that much of the prevailing disease among the British troops was remediable, not merely to the continued use of salt rations and absence of vegetable diet, but also to the imperfect manner in which the food was cooked, Lord Raglan has directed an inquiry to be instituted on the subject. The following is the general order relative to this important matter.

GENERAL ORDER.

Head Quarters, before Sebastopol, Dec. 20, 1854.

The Commander of the Forces requests that the generals of divisions will be so good as to ascertain, and report, how the cooking of each of the regiments under their orders is carried on.

It is in the highest degree desirable that the system of messing established by her Majesty's regulations should be resorted to, where the regiments are in possession of camp kettles; and the Commander of the Forces desires that, as required by the regulations, an officer should inspect the messes, and see that the provisions are properly cooked.

(FROM ANOTHER SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Nov. 22.—The siege drags its slow length along. On the left the French have advanced close to the walls, and their works in this position are constantly an object for the fire of the enemy. Sorties are frequent against them, and several new batteries within the town have been brought to bear upon them. In the English part of the works there is very little change. The firing on both sides has been very slack every day since I last wrote, and the Russian batteries opposed to us are as strong, if not stronger, than on the first day the siege opened. The new works thrown up in advance of our extreme right, especially a square redoubt, which will command the approach from the Inkermann valley, have the last few days been very actively shelled by the enemy. They have careered over two versts at the head of the roadstead so as to acquire the necessary elevation. The shells have done little mischief beyond the annoyance they have caused to the working parties. An affair occurred on the evening of the 20th instant in front of the Greenhill, or Chapman's battery, at the extreme left of the British line of attack, which deserves mention. About 400 yards of the battery there is an advanced work approached by a covered way to its left. The work has been only employed for the protection of the covering parties. In opposition to this the Russians had raised a number of loopholed earthworks, from behind which they could enfilade with their musketry the line of the advanced work. They had thus been enabled to mark down several of our men, and it was determined to dislodge them from their places of shelter. The execution of the task was entrusted to a small party—about two hundred men—of the first battalion of the Rifle Brigade, attached to the Fourth Division. The attack commenced about 8 o'clock. There had been heavy rain all day, and, although this had ceased, the sky was still quite overcast and the night dark. The Russian sentinels, as soon as they heard our party approaching, which was not till they were close upon them, opened a sharp fire with their rifles, and continued to resist the attack with much determination. They were shortly joined by a reinforcement who came forward with the usual Russian cheer. At the same time shells were thrown in quick succession from several of the Russian batteries against our men, the flashes of fire from their rifles being evidently the guide for the direction of the aim. The shells generally passed over and burst beyond, so that they did little execution. After a contest which lasted about three quarters of an hour, the men of the Rifle Brigade gained possession of the Russian works, and compelled the sharpshooters to retreat towards the town. First-Lieutenant Henry Tryon fell mortally wounded by a ball which struck him in the head, and five men of the regiment were killed. Fifteen others were wounded, two of whom are since dead. Owing to the darkness of the night, the aim was very uncertain, and was chiefly directed where the flashes of light showed the presence of the opposing troops. The party of the Rifle Brigade retained possession of the Russian works, and were soon afterwards joined by some sappers, who commenced implanting them in an opposite direction, so as to be able the more easily to defend an approach against them. The following morning early the Russians brought two field-pieces to bear upon them; but now that they are taken, they will not be able to wrest them from us again. The possession of the ground is not only an advantage to our own covering party, but also ensures the extreme right of the French works from annoyance, to which they were previously subjected by the fire of the Russian riflemen from this position.

The French reinforcements arrive daily; about 11,000 of the new contingent are said to have landed. Their field batteries have not yet arrived, but are looked for every hour. Some of the British reinforcements have also come. The 62nd Regiment is now attached to the 2nd Division. Drafts for eight regiments, nearly 800 men, were landed last evening from the Queen of the South transport. The 97th Regiment arrived from the Piræus on the 20th inst. In spite of the rain, which fell in torrents, and the wet, muddy state of the ground, they were at once landed, and marched to encamp a short distance from Balaklava. Yesterday (Nov. 21) was a dry, fine day; had, therefore, the regiment been detained till the weather became more favourable, they would only have been required to remain one night longer on board. Inattention to ordinary sanitary precautions of this nature seriously interferes with the efficiency of the troops. It is known that the new comers particularly have been suffering from the change to the exposed life which the soldiers are compelled to endure during the present operations. Living in tents, without adequate covering, bivouacking in the trenches, under all varieties of temperature and weather, disease cannot be avoided, but it may be materially circumscribed in extent and gravity by due precautions. The 68th, lately arrived, are still suffering severely from diarrhœa and cholera; they have now upwards of one hundred on the sick list, and have already buried more than fifty men. They have been losing, on the average, six and seven men per diem. These are serious warnings. The 97th Regiment ought not to have been permitted to disembark in such weather, and of this the authorities seemed to become aware when it was too late, for a message arrived that they were not to land, after the last man had left the ship, and the clothes and blankets of the whole had become too saturated with rain to make it a matter of import whether they went back to the ship or not. If there were a proper concert between the medical and the military heads of departments these mistakes would not occur. The French army has been supplied with an admirable coat adapted to the season and climate. In shape it is not unlike the coat known in England under the ordinary appellation of a pea-coat, ample in width, with large easy sleeves, and descending nearly to the knee. It is made of dressed sheepskin, the wool being worn inside, is very pliable and soft, and quite free from all unpleasant odour. The great advantage of this article of dress is not only its intrinsic warmth but its power of preventing the passage through its texture of the sharp penetrating wind which is so keenly felt on these heights. It is, moreover, very durable. I don't know whether the idea of supplying the French troops with this garment has originated in observing that it is the prevailing costume among the inhabitants of the country; but, as every peasant has a dress of this sort, and the richer classes have also

their fur coats, though of a more costly kind, it is not improbable that the French authorities copied what they saw around them. Very few of our men—only two regiments, I believe—have their ordinary supply of winter clothes yet; and the loss of the additional woollen articles sent out in the Prince transport is therefore the more keenly felt. The adoption of the fur coat by the French is a very wise measure: it will not only add to the comfort, but will materially tend to keep away disease and sickness from the men. There are many objections to the employment of additional woollen articles of under-dress among the English troops: the difficulty of keeping them clean and free from vermin, where water is so scarce an article, and no vessels for washing is are to be procured, and the time is so fully occupied in the every day duties. The tightness of the cuirass and English trousers prevents much addition to the ordinary apparel worn underneath, at least present its use consistently with ease and comfort. The dressed sheepskin coat obviates many of these objections.

General Bosquet, made an inspection of the whole of the troops of his division on the morning of Sunday, the 19th. The part of the French army is occupied in defending the right flank, stretching out as far as Balaklava. They turned out in the most admirable order, and their steady and military appearance would have excited praise on the Champ de Mars in the French capital, much more under their present circumstances.

The weather continues very stormy and unsettled, but, on the wind has been chiefly from a southerly or westerly direction, the temperature has been on the whole milder than was anticipated. There has been much rain. A portion of the French and Turkish troops, being occupied in the defence of the position, has had more leisure than the English troops, who are nearly all actively employed in the siege operations, and these troops have contrived, by excavating in the ground or by raising works around their tents, to render themselves comparatively comfortable. As soon as wood can be procured the British troops will also no doubt be hutted; but they have much to learn in this, as they have in other campaigning operations, and will require proper direction in order that the huts may be made substantial and effective. It ought to be done very quickly, for in spite of reinforcements the British force is greatly diminished in numbers, and is daily diminishing still more. The number of sick sent every week from camp to Balaklava, either to gain protection in the hand hospital buildings, or ships, or to be forwarded to the Bosphorus, is becoming serious. Not to mention the field hospitals, our establishments of the nature are now at Varna, Koulali, Scutari,—with a convalescent ship on the Bosphorus near to this station—Gallipoli, and Abydos. The troops require absolutely a change of clothes and additional warmth, means of cleanliness, better means of cooking, and better protection against weather than the canvas tent. The meat, biscuit, and rum, supplied by the commissariat, are excellent; the groceries are less good and less regularly issued.

THE ARMY SURGEONS.

Lord Raglan's "General Order" to the medical officers in the Crimea has been by most people regarded as a rather unhandsome attempt to shift to their shoulders blame which ought to have been borne by others. It may be remarked here that Lord Raglan is not singular among military and naval authorities in displaying a supercilious injustice to the medical officers. How long and with how little effect has a struggle been made to obtain proper accommodation for surgeons on board men-of-war? What has been the conduct of the Lieutenant of the Tiger to his surgeon at Odessa? In what tone are the young puppies of a regimental mess allowed to speak habitually of their regimental surgeon? But there is cruelty, as well as indecorum and injustice in the imputations against the army surgeons thrown out by Lord Raglan. The mismanagement and perfidities of the commissariat in the army of the East have pressed more severely upon them than any branch of the service. "The Director-General," it is said, in a remarkable letter on "the treatment of the wounded in the Crimea," which we publish to-day, "sent out a numerous body of surgeons. Many of them succumbed to climate, disease, and hard labour in Bulgaria and elsewhere, and the number has been very considerably diminished." The diminished band has not been supplied with adequate conveyance for the wounded and sick, or their medics', and chirurgical stores. "So negligent," says the same writer from whom we have already quoted, "has been the care of the sick in one army, that when—as is notorious—, for they could not but be seen—general and staff officers could appropriate arabas for the conveyance of private baggage, no carts whatever were told off for the conveyance of the men who fell sick on the road." The whole letter from which these extracts have been made will well repay perusal. It is the duty of every Englishman, and more especially of every Englishman who has taken part in the recent movements for the relief of the sick and wounded in the army of the East to look to this matter. None admire more than we do the devotedness of the generous women who have gone out to tend the inmates of the hospital at Scutari—none can be more willing to do justice to the liberality with which so many have opened their purses to remedy alleged defects in that institution. But when we read the harrowing details of the systematic neglect of the army surgeons and their patients in the Crimea, it almost looks as if the hospital at Scutari had been made a "herring drag" to turn men off the scent of a great and utterly indefensible wrong. In the name of humanity let the zealous and excellent medical officers of our army and navy be properly supported. In the name of humanity let something be done to supply them with the requisites for leading that efficient aid to the sick and wounded which they are so anxious to do.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, before Sebastopol,
December 26, 1854.

No. 1. The Commander of the Forces has much pleasure in publishing, for the information of the officers of the army, the following letter from the Secretary-at-War:

War-office, Nov. 26, 1854.

My Lord,—Her Majesty's government having deemed it advisable that every officer, as well as soldier, should receive articles of winter clothing at the public expense, I have the honour to request that your lordship will be pleased to issue to every officer in the army under your command a sheepskin coat, a fur cap, two pair of flannel drawers, two pairs of woollen socks, two woollen jerseys, and two pair of gloves, if required by them.

The most of these articles have been already shipped from this country, and the remainder will be forwarded as soon as they are ready.

I have the honour to be, my lord,
Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,
SIDNEY HERBERT.

Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c., &c.

No. 2. The following letter from the Military Secretary to Viscount Hardinge, General Commanding-in-Chief, is published for the information of the troops:

Horse Guards, Nov. 24, 1854.

My Lord,—I have received the directions of the General Commanding-in-Chief, to acquaint your lordship, that her Majesty has been pleased to approve of the addition of three supernumerary lieutenants, and three supernumerary ensigns, to each of the regiments of the line serving with the army under your lordship's command.

I have the honour to be, my lord,
Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,
C. YORKE.

Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c., &c.

In consequence of the urgent representations made by some of the medical officers that much of the prevailing disease among the British troops was attributable, not merely to the continued use of salt rations and absence of vegetable diet, but also to the insufficient manner in which the food was cooked, Lord Raglan has directed an inquiry to be instituted on the subject. The following is the general order relative to this important matter.

GENERAL ORDER.

Head Quarters, before Sebastopol, Dec. 26, 1854.

The Commander of the Forces requests that the generals of divisions will be so good as to ascertain, and report, how the messing of each of the regiments under their orders is carried on.

It is in the highest degree desirable that the system of messing established by her Majesty's regulations should be resorted to, where the regiments are in possession of many hottles; and the Commander of the Forces desires that, as required by the regulations, an officer should inspect the messes, and see that the provisions are properly cooked.

(FROM ANOTHER SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Nov. 22.—The siege drags its slow length along. On the left the French have advanced close to the walls, and their works in this position are constantly an object for the fire of the enemy. Sorties are frequent against them, and several new batteries within the town have been brought to bear upon them. In the English part of the works there is very little change. The firing on both sides has been very slack every day since I last wrote, and the Russian batteries opposed to us are as strong, if not stronger, than on the first day the siege opened. The new works thrown up in advance of our extreme right, especially a square redoubt, which will command the approach from the Inkermann valley, have the last few days been very actively shelled by the enemy. They have caverned over two vessels at the head of the roadstead so as to acquire the necessary elevation. The shells have done little mischief beyond the annoyance they have caused to the working parties. An effair occurred on the evening of the 20th instant in front of the Greenhill, or Chapman's battery, at the extreme left of the British line of attack, which deserves mention. About 400 yards of the battery there is an advanced work approached by a covered way to its left. The work has been only employed for the protection of the covering parties. In opposition to this the Russians had raised a number of loopholed earthworks, from behind which they could enfilade with their musketry the line of the advanced work. They had thus been enabled to mark down several of our men, and it was determined to dislodge them from their places of shelter. The execution of the task was entrusted to a small party—about two hundred men—of the first battalion of the Rifle Brigade, attached to the Fourth Division. The attack commenced about 8 o'clock. There had been heavy rain all day, and, although this had ceased, the sky was still quite overcast and the night dark. The Russian riflemen, as soon as they heard our party approaching, which was not till they were close upon them, opened a sharp fire with their rifles, and continued to resist the attack with much determination. They were shortly joined by a reinforcement who came forward with the usual Russian cheer. At the same time shells were thrown in quick succession from several of the Russian batteries against our men, the flashes of fire from their rifles being evidently the guide for the direction of the aim. The shells generally passed over and burst beyond, so that they did little execution. After a contest which lasted about three quarters of an hour, the men of the Rifle Brigade gained possession of the Russian works, and compelled the sharpshooters to retreat towards the town. First-Lieutenant Henry Tryon fell mortally wounded by a ball which struck him in the head, and five men of the regiment were killed. Fifteen others were wounded, two of whom are since dead. Owing to the darkness of the night, the aim was very uncertain, and was chiefly directed where the flashes of light showed the presence of the opposing troops. The party of the Rifle Brigade retained possession of the Russian works, and were soon afterwards joined by some sappers, who commenced loopholing them in an opposite direction, so as to be able the more easily to defend an approach against them. The following morning early the Russians brought two field-pieces to bear upon them; but now that they are taken, they will not be able to wrest them from us again. The possession of this ground is not only an advantage to our own covering party, but also ensures the extreme right of the French works from annoyance, to which they were previously subjected by the fire of the Russian riflemen from this position.

The French reinforcements arrive daily; about 11,000 of the new contingent are said to have landed. Their field bargages have not yet arrived, but are looked for every hour. Some of the British reinforcements have also come. The 62nd Regiment is now attached to the 2nd Division. Drafts for eight regiments, nearly 800 men, were landed last evening from the Queen of the South transport. The 97th Regiment arrived from the Piræus on the 20th inst. In spite of the rain, which fell in torrents, and the wet, muddy state of the ground, they were at once landed, and marched to encamp a short distance from Balaklava. Yesterday (Nov. 21) was a dry, fine day had, therefore, the regiment been detained till the weather became more favourable, they would only have been required to remain one night longer on board. Any addition to ordinary sanitary precautions of this nature seriously interfere with the efficiency of the troops. It is known that the new comers particularly have been suffering from the change to the exposed life which the soldiers are compelled to endure during the present operations. Like is tents, without adequate covering, living in the trenches, under all varieties of temperature and weather, disease cannot be avoided, but it may be materially controlled in extent and gravity by due precautions. The 46th, lately arrived, are still suffering severely from diarrhœa and cholera; they have now upwards of one hundred on the sick list, and have already buried more than fifty men. They have been losing, on the average, six and seven men per diem. These are serious warnings. The 97th Regiment ought not to have been permitted to disembark in such weather, and of this the authorities seemed to become aware when it was too late, for a message arrived that they were not to land, after the last man had left the ship, and the clothes and blankets of the whole had become too saturated with rain to make it a matter of import whether they went back to the ship or not. If there were a proper concert between the medical and the military heads of departments these mistakes would not occur. The French army has been supplied with an admirable vest adapted to the season and climate. In shape it is not unlike the vest known in England under the ordinary appellation of a pea-coat, sagis in which, with large easy sleeves, and descending nearly to the knees. It is made of dressed sheepskin, the wool being worn inside, is very pliable and soft, and quite free from all unpleasant odour. The great advantage of this article of dress is not only its intrinsic warmth but its power of preventing the passage through its texture of the sharp penetrating wind which is so keenly felt on these heights. It is, moreover, very durable. I don't know whether the idea of supplying the French troops with this garment has originated in observing that it is the prevailing costume among the inhabitants of the country; but, as every peasant has a dress of this sort, and the richer classes have also

their fur coats, though of a more costly kind, it is not improbable that the French authorities copied what they saw around them. Very few of our men—only two regiments, I believe—have their ordinary supply of winter clothes yet; and the loss of the additional woollen articles sent out in the Prince transport is therefore the more keenly felt. The adoption of the fur coat by the French is a very wise measure: it will not only add to the comfort, but will materially tend to keep away disease and sickness from the men. There are many objections to the employment of additional woollen articles of under-dress among the English troops: the difficulty of keeping them clean and free from vermin, where water is so scarce an article, and no vessels for washing is are to be procured, and the time is so fully occupied in the every day duties. The tightness of the coat-tee and English trousers prevents much addition to the ordinary apparel worn underneath, at least prevent its use consistently with ease and comfort. The dressed sheepskin coat obviates many of these objections.

General Bosquet, made an inspection of the whole of the troops of his division on the morning of Sunday, the 19th. This part of the French army is occupied in defending the right flank, stretching out as far as Balaklava. They turned out in the most admirable order, and their cleanly and military appearance would have excited praise on the Champ de Mars in the French capital, much more under their present circumstances.

The weather continues very stormy and unsettled, but, as the wind has been chiefly from a southerly or westerly direction, the temperature has been on the whole milder than was anticipated. There has been much rain. A portion of the French and Turkish troops, being occupied in the defence of the position, has had more leisure than the English troops, who are nearly all actively employed in the siege operations, and these troops have contrived, by excavating in the ground or by raising works around their tents, to render themselves comparatively comfortable. As soon as wood can be procured the British troops will also no doubt be hutted; but they have much to learn in this, as they have in other campaigning operations, and will require proper direction in order that the huts may be made substantial and effective. It ought to be done very quickly, for in spite of reinforcements the British force is greatly diminished in numbers, and is daily diminishing still more. The number of sick sent every week from camp to Balaklava, either to [illegible] accommodation in the local hospital buildings, or

He said that these battalions, i.e., 12,000 men of the garrison of Sebastopol, were with the army. 'We could have held it,' says the captured Russian general, 'against fair soldiers; but we had not calculated on being attacked by red devils.'

"The Russians, who crowded the field in all the contortions of the last agony, were principally soldiers of the 16th and 32nd Regiments. They were mostly very small-sized men, though stout, muscular, and active-looking. From their appearance I should think there were scarcely a dozen above the age of twenty-five, and the majority were much younger. Not a single officer was among their dead, at least none that we could recognise as such. They wore short grey great-coats, blue coatees, blue trousers with a narrow red band, and stout leather boots reaching almost to their knees. Their stout white leather cross-belts were scrupulously clean, as was all the rest of their uniform. On their heads were handsome black leather helmets, bound with brass, and brass chin-plates, with a spiked top. In front was a large handsome Imperial eagle, also in brass, surmounted with a Russian inscription and number of the regiment. Each man also bore the regimental number marked on the cloth of his uniform. Their firelocks were old and almost worthless, at least compared to our Minié. The stocks were of a light dry wood, coloured over—their barrels about six inches longer than ours, but not rifled. Their bayonets were wretched! I saw our men break them in their hands. They had large convenient knapsacks of undressed cow-hide, rough-looking, light, and serviceable. All these were instantly broken open by our men, and the contents eagerly scrutinised. Each had in it two course cotton shirts, two pairs of socks, a pair of cloth mits, a strong pair of leather boots, and one pair of trousers. All these were arranged in excellent order, and beautifully clean. I have seldom seen linen cleaner. Nearly every other man's knapsack contained a pack of cards. No books were found except four or five Korans in Turkish and Arabic, proving what I had previously heard, that we should find many Mohammedans in the ranks of the Russians.

"The octangular tower, where the chief fighting of the French division took place, was choked with dead Russians, mostly shot in the head. It is constructed of a very white stone, and presents to the eye a formidable appearance. The stone is, however, very soft; and should the vaunted forts of Sebastopol be composed of the same material, our siege-guns will soon account for them. French Zouaves and others were busy engraving their names and regiments with their knives on this tower. Prince Napoleon had pitched his tent near this spot. I have omitted to mention that on the approach of the allies, masons were busy on the tower, which was then surrounded with scaffolding.

THE ARMY SURGEONS.

Lord Raglan's "General Order" to the medical officers in the Crimea has been by most people regarded as a rather unhandsome attempt to shift to their shoulders blame which ought to have been borne by others. It may be remarked here that Lord Raglan is not singular among military and naval authorities in displaying a supercilious injustice to the medical officers. How long and with how little effect has a struggle been made to obtain proper accommodation for surgeons on board men-of-war? What has been the conduct of the Lieutenant of the Tiger to his surgeon at Odessa? In what tone are the young puppies of a regimental mess allowed to speak habitually of their regimental surgeon? But there is cruelty, as well as indecorum and injustice in the imputations against the army surgeons thrown out by Lord Raglan. The mismanagement and partialities of the commissariat in the army of the East have pressed more severely upon them than any branch of the service. "The Director-General," it is said, in a remarkable letter on "the treatment of the wounded in the Crimea," which we published to-day, "sent out a numerous body of surgeons. Many of them succumbed to climate, disease, and hard labour in Bulgaria and elsewhere, and the number has been very considerably diminished." The diminished band has not been supplied with adequate conveyance for the wounded and sick, or their medical and chirurgical stores. "So negligent," says the same writer from whom we have already quoted, "has been the care of the sick in our army, that when—as is notorious—, for they could not but be seen—general and staff officers could appropriate arabas for the conveyance of private baggage, no carts whatever were told off for the conveyance of the men who fell sick on the road." The whole letter from which these extracts have been made will well repay perusal. It is the duty of every Englishman, and more especially of every Englishman who has taken part in the recent movements for the relief of the sick and wounded in the army of the East to look to this matter. None admire more than we do the devotion of the generous women who have gone out [illegible] matrons of the hospital at Scutari—more willing to do justice to the liberality which so many have opened their purses and splendid defects in that institution. But the harrowing details of the system of the army surgeons and their position in the Crimea, it almost looks as if the contract had been made a "herring contract" between them and the [illegible] off the scent of a great and utterly wrong. In the name of humanity let all excellent medical officers of our army be properly supported. In the name of humanity let something be done to supply the requisites for healing that afflict the sick and wounded which they have to do.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, before Sebastopol,
December 26, 1854.

No. 1. The Commander of the Forces has much pleasure in publishing, for the information of the officers of the army, the following letter from the Secretary-at-War:

War-office, Nov. 29, 1854.

My Lord,—Her Majesty's government having deemed it advisable that every officer, as well as soldier, should receive articles of winter clothing at the public expense, I have the honour to request that your lordship will be pleased to issue to every officer in the army under your command a sheepskin coat, a fur cap, two pairs of flannel drawers, two pairs of woollen socks, two woollen jerseys, and two pair of gloves, if required by them.

The most of these articles have been already shipped from this country, and the remainder will be forwarded as soon as they are ready.

I have the honour to be, my lord,
Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,
SIDNEY HERBERT.

Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c., &c.

No. 2. The following letter from the Military Secretary to Viscount Hardinge, General Commanding-in-Chief, is published for the information of the troops:

Horse Guards, Nov. 24, 1854.

My Lord,—I have received the directions of the General Commanding-in-Chief, to acquaint your lordship, that her Majesty has been pleased to approve of the addition of three supernumerary lieutenants, and three supernumerary ensigns, to each of the regiments of the line serving with the army under your lordship's command.

I have the honour to be, my lord,
Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,
C. YORKE.

Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c., &c.

In consequence of the urgent representations made by some of the medical officers that much of the prevailing disease among the British troops was attributable, not merely to the continued use of salt rations and absence of vegetable diet, but also to the imperfect manner in which the food was cooked, Lord Raglan has directed an inquiry to be instituted on the subject. The following is the general order relative to this important matter.

GENERAL ORDER.

Head Quarters, before Sebastopol, Dec. 26, 1854.

The Commander of the Forces requests that the generals of divisions will be so good as to ascertain, and report, how the messing of each of the regiments under their orders is carried on.

It is in the highest degree desirable that the system of messing established by her Majesty's regulations should be reverted to, where the regiments are in possession of camp kettles; and the Commander of the Forces desires that, as required by the regulations, an officer should inspect the messes, and see that the provisions are properly cooked.

(FROM ANOTHER SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Nov. 22.—The siege drags its slow length along. On the left the French have advanced close to the walls, and their works in this position are constantly an object for the fire of the enemy. Sorties are frequent against them, and several new batteries within the town have been brought to bear upon them. In the English part of the works there is very little change. The firing on both sides has been very slack every day since I last wrote, and the Russian batteries opposed to us are as strong, if not stronger, than on the first day the siege opened. The new works thrown up in advance of our extreme right, especially a square redoubt, which will command the approach from the Inkermann valley, have the last few days been very actively shelled by the enemy. They have caused over two vessels at the head of the roadstead so as to acquire the necessary elevation. The shells have done little mischief beyond the annoyance they have caused to the working parties. An affair occurred on the evening of the 20th instant in front of the Greenhill, or Chapman's battery, at the extreme left of the British line of attack, which deserves mention. About 400 yards of the battery there is an advanced work approached by a covered way to its left. The work has been only employed for the protection of the covering parties. In opposition to this the Russians had raised a number of loopholed earthworks, from behind which they could enfilade with their musketry the line of the advanced work. They had thus been enabled to mark down several of our men, and it was determined to dislodge them from their places of shelter. The execution of the task was entrusted to a small party—about two hundred men—of the first battalion of the Rifle Brigade, attached to the Fourth Division. The attack commenced about 8 o'clock. There had been heavy rain all day, and, although this had ceased, the sky was still quite overcast and the night dark. The Russian riflemen, as soon as they found our party approaching, which was not till they were close upon them, opened a sharp fire with their rifles, and continued to resist the attack with much determination. They were shortly joined by a reinforcement who came forward with the usual Russian cheer. At the same time shells were thrown in quick succession from several of the Russian batteries against our men, the flashes of fire from their rifles being evidently the guide for the direction of the aim. The shells generally passed over and burst beyond, so that they did little execution. After a contest which lasted about three quarters of an hour, the men of the Rifle Brigade gained possession of the Russian works, and compelled the sharpshooters to retreat towards the town. First-Lieutenant Henry Tryon fell mortally wounded by a ball which struck him in the head, and five men of the regiment were killed. Fifteen others were wounded, two of whom are since dead. Owing to the darkness of the night, the aim was very uncertain, and was chiefly directed where the flashes of light showed the presence of the opposing troops. The party of the Rifle Brigade retained possession of the Russian works, and were soon afterwards joined by some sappers, who commenced loopholing them in an opposite direction, so as to be able the more easily to defend an approach against them. The following morning early the Russians brought two field-pieces to bear upon them; but now that they are taken, they will not be able to wrest them from us again. The possession of this ground is not only an advantage to our own covering party, but also protects the extreme right of the French works from enfilading, to which they were previously subjected by the fire of the Russian fifteen from this position.

The French reinforcements arrive daily; about 11,000 of the new contingent are said to have landed. Their field batteries have not yet arrived, but are looked for every hour. Some of the British reinforcements have also come. The 62nd Regiment is now attached to the 2nd Division. Drafts for eight regiments, nearly 800 men, were landed last evening from the Queen of the South transport. The 97th Regiment arrived from the Piræus on the 20th inst. In spite of the rain, which fell in torrents, and the wet, muddy state of the ground, they were at once landed, and marched to encamp a short distance from Balaklava. Yesterday (Nov. 21) was a dry, fine day; but the transport in the regiment been detained till the weather became more favourable, they would only have been required to remain one night longer on board. Inattention to ordinary sanitary precautions of the nature seriously interferes with the efficiency of the troops. It is known that the new comers particularly have been suffering from the change to the exposed life which the soldiers are compelled to endure during the present operations. Living in tents, without adequate covering, lie-making in the trenches, under all varieties of temperature and weather, disease cannot be avoided, but it may be materially controlled in extent and severity by due precautions. The 56th, lately arrived, are still suffering severely from diarrhœa and cholera: they have now upwards of one hundred and one sick list, and have already buried more than fifty men. They have been losing, on the average, six and seven men per diem. These are serious warnings. The 97th Regiment ought not to have been permitted to disembark in such weather, and of this the authorities seemed to become aware when it was too late, for a message arrived that they were not to land, after the last man had left the ship, and the clothes and blankets of the whole had become too saturated with rain to make it a matter of import whether they went back to the ship or not. If there were a proper concert between the medical and the military heads of departments these mistakes would occur. The French army has been supplied with an admirable coat adapted to the season and climate. In shape it is not unlike the coat known in England under the ordinary appellation of a pea-coat, ample in width, with large easy sleeves, and descending nearly to the knees. It is made of frieze sheepskin, the wool being worn inside, is very pliable and soft, and quite free from all unpleasant odour. The great advantage of this article of dress is not only its intrinsic warmth but its power of preventing the passage through its texture of the sharp penetrating wind which is so keenly felt on these heights. It is, moreover, very durable. I don't know whether the idea of supplying the French troops with this garment has originated in observing that it is the prevailing costume among the inhabitants of the country; but, so every peasant has a dress of this sort, and the richer classes have also

their furskin, though of a more costly kind, it is not improbable that the French authorities copied what they saw around them. Very few of our men—only two regiments, I believe—have their ordinary supply of winter clothes yet; and the loss of the additional woollen articles sent out in the Prince transport is elsewhere the more keenly felt. The adoption of the fur coat by the French is a very wise measure: it will not only add to the comfort, but will materially tend to keep away disease and sickness from the men. There are many objections to the employment of additional woollen articles of under-dress among the English troops: the difficulty of keeping them clean and free from vermin, where water is so scarce an article, and no vessels for washing in are to be procured, and the time is so fully occupied in the every day duties. The tightness of the coat and English trousers prevents much addition to the ordinary apparel worn underneath, at least prevent its use consistently with ease and comfort. The dressed sheepskin coat obviates many of these objections.

General Bosquet made an inspection of the whole of the troops of his division on the morning of Sunday, the 26th. This part of the French army is occupied in defending the right flank, stretching out as far as Balaklava. They turned out in the most admirable order, and their steady and military appearance would have excited praise on the Champ de Mars in the French capital, much more under their present circumstances.

The weather continues very stormy and unsettled. But, as the wind has been chiefly from a southerly or westerly direction, the temperature has been on the whole milder than was anticipated. There has been much rain. A portion of the French and Turkish troops, being occupied in the defence of the position, has had more leisure than the English troops, who are constantly all actively employed in the siege operations, and these troops have contrived, by excavating in the ground or by raising works around their tents, to render themselves comparatively comfortable. As soon as wood can be procured the British troops will also no doubt be better off; but they have much to learn in this, as they have in other campaigning operations, and will require proper direction in order that the army may be made substantial and effective. It ought to be done very quickly, for in spite of reinforcements the British force is greatly diminished in numbers, and is daily diminishing still more. The number of sick [illegible] with both legs shattered to pieces. The Russians have certainly behaved barbarously in not sending to bury their dead, or to tend their wounded. An immense number of broken muskets covered the ground. When our men passed over the wounded, they instantly destroyed their weapons, by breaking the stock. A great proportion of superior workmanship were picked up. Their maker is Malherbes, of Liège."

The grand total of English killed and wounded in the battle of the Alma is given in Lord Raglan's despatches as 26 officers, 10 sergeants, 2 drummers, 305 rank and file, 26 horses, killed; 73 officers, 35 sergeants, 17 drummers, 1,427 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded; 2 drummers and 16 rank and file missing.

The official return of the French killed and wounded has not reached us. It is considerably less than our own, which is explained by the fact that all the heavy guns were brought to bear against the English division, whilst our brave allies were chiefly opposed to musketry.

Some surprise has been evinced that no mention has been made in the official despatches of the Turkish division. The Turks, at the battle of Alma, had only 2,000 men engaged with the 2nd French division on the enemy's left. Their part was not so active as these brave fellows desired, and General Bosquet had the greatest difficulty to make them remain in the position assigned to them. They only lost 230 men, killed and wounded. The Turkish Government has, it is said, expressed its regret that its troops were not placed in the post of honour.

The Turks have shown so often, both at Silistria and elsewhere during the campaign, that they are as brave as the bravest, that their apparent inactivity at the battle of the Alma does not throw the slightest discredit upon them. It was simply a chance of war that they were not more actively engaged.

The results of this great victory are immense. Its influence upon the vacillating policy of Austria and Prussia is already manifest; and as regards the movements of the expeditionary forces it is decisive.

On the morning of the 23rd, the 22nd having been devoted to the burying of the dead, the allied armies broke up and advanced on the river Katcha:—

"The march was to be but a short one of seven miles, but it appeared not improbable that a stand would be made at Katcha by the enemy. The country along the march presented the usual uninteresting features of the Crimea. To the left a chain of small rugged mountains extended as far as the eye could reach, topped by the Chaidar Dagh, or Tent Mountain. To the right was the sea, covered with the vast fleet of men-of-war and transports. Before were vast steppes, trodden down

THE ARMY SURGEONS.

Lord Raglan's "General Order" to the medical officers in the Crimea has been by most people regarded as a rather unhandsome attempt to shift to their shoulders blame which ought to have been borne by others. It may be remarked here that Lord Raglan is not singular among military and naval authorities in displaying a superstitious injustice to the medical officers. How long and with how little effect has a struggle been made to obtain proper accommodation for surgeons on board men-of-war? What has been the conduct of the Lieutenant of the Tiger to his surgeon at Odessa? In what tone are the young puppies of a regimental mess allowed to speak habitually of their regimental surgeon? But there is cruelty, as well as inhumanity and injustice in the imputations against the army surgeons thrown out by Lord Raglan. The mismanagement and partialities of the commissariat in the army of the East have pressed more severely upon them than any branch of the service. "The Director-General," it is said, in a remarkable letter on "the treatment of the wounded in the Crimea," which we publish to-day, "sent out a numerous body of surgeons. Many of them succumbed to climate, disease, and hard labour in Bulgaria and elsewhere, and the number has been very considerably diminished." The diminished band has not been supplied with adequate conveyance for the wounded or sick, or their medical and chirurgical stores. "So negligent," says the same writer from whom we have already quoted, "has been the care of the sick in our army, that when—as is notorious—, for they could not but be seen—general and staff officers could appropriate wagons for the conveyance of private baggage, no carts whatever were told off for the conveyance of the men who fell sick on the road." The whole letter from which these extracts have been made will well repay perusal. It is the duty of every Englishman, and more especially of every Englishman who has taken part in the recent movements for the relief of the sick and wounded in the army of the East to look to [illegible] no admire more than we do the generous women who have gone out [illegible]ates of the hospital at Scutari—[illegible] willing to do justice to the liberal [illegible]h so many have opened their purses [illegible]ed defects in that institution. But the harrowing details of the ex[illegible] of the army surgeons and their pa[illegible]rimea, it almost looks as if the [illegible]that had been made a "heaving [illegible]s off the scent of a great and utterly [illegible]ng. In the name of humanity let [illegible] excellent medical officers of our [illegible] be properly supported. In the [illegible]ity let something be done to sup[illegible] the requisites for leading that offi[illegible] sick and wounded which they [illegible] to do.

Journal of the Siege. Dec. 1854

THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT).

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

Dec. 2nd.—No event of importance connected with the progress of the siege has occurred since I last wrote. The state of the weather, the difficulties of transport, on account of the condition of the roads and the debilitated condition of the commissariat cattle, the disease among the troops, especially those lately arrived, have been the engrossing topics of discourse among the British troops in camp. Storms of wind from the west and south-west, and heavy rain, have continued since the 27th of last month until to-day. Since this morning no rain has fallen, and the wind coming from a northerly direction is now encouraging a hope that it has left us for the present. We are in the most urgent need of dry weather, for the authorities have made no "preparation against a rainy day." No stores of rations have been formed in camp; no care has been taken to preserve the roads in a condition fit for the passage of artillery or even of ordinary carts and waggons. The commissariat cattle, weakened by a spare allowance of rations—a saving dictated by false economy, and from want of proper protection and care, have succumbed to their fate, and so few are left alive that they may be regarded as extinct. Dependance for bringing up rations, clothing, and stores of all kinds, for the regiments, now rests upon the bat animals, one of which for each company was landed some time since. But these animals are reduced to mere skeletons. Their rations of corn and forage have been quite inadequate; they have been picketed near their regiments without any opportunity of grazing, and looked after by men selected at random from the ranks; their work has been very severe; and their number is consequently much diminished. Their allowance is now ordered to be increased by three pounds of barley per diem; but this considerate attention is rather late—too late, probably, to meet the end in view. The daily toil of the journey along the almost impassable route to Balaklava, and the return with their heavy loads is manifestly too much for their endurance. Our cavalry and artillery horses are almost in as bad a plight; the former a couple of days since were indebted to our allies for a day's allowance of forage and corn. The present intention is to move the cavalry into Balaklava, that some protection for the horses may be obtained there. The condition of the troops in the field is no better. Disease and death have been doing their work fast, especially among the new comers. Salt rations without vegetables, the constant exposure to rain and cold, constant fatigue and broken rest, and a general absence of sanitary precautions, have naturally brought on fatigue. The continued rain has prevented the men from lighting their fires on the ground; no attempt has been made to provide covering or cooking sheds, even of the roughest description; and in instances without number the men have been content to eat their salt pork as issued, in a raw state, with their biscuit. They have a long distance to go for their fuel, and they can only then obtain a scanty brushwood which is itself of course in any but an inflammable condition. The water which is found in small streams flowing down the ravines is muddy, and not, at any rate in appearance, very wholesome. In the same wet clothes, with the same wet blanket which he has worn round him in the trenches, the soldier has to lie down on the wet ground of his tent. Where are all the boasted improvements of science—where the ingenious contrivances—the increased care, which were to mark our progress and diminish the evils of war almost to the mere injuries inflicted on the battle-field? Our losses in the field have been great, but greater still have resulted from sickness; and sickness very much of which might have been prevented by due precaution.

There is one consolation which every one appears to derive from the lamentable state of affairs which I have described. It is argued that it is impossible for the Commander-in-Chief not to be aware of the state of the troops. More provision must have been made for the lasting of the men, and for their protection against the weather of this advanced season of the year, were it not known for a certainty at headquarters that they would not long be exposed to its effects. The speedy fall of Sebastopol must be clearly seen. Else it would have been worse than imprudence to have so totally neglected those measures which would have prevented the sacrifice of so much health, and already of so many lives. Wood can be obtained in large quantities and with facility all along the southern and eastern shores of the Black Sea. Depots of provisions and of forage could have easily been formed at the divisional commissariat quarters. A central depot for the supply of all, to exigency might demand, could have been established during the fine weather. The French have done all this; great numbers of them, as well as of the Ottoman troops, are already hutted; and they have already been supplied with sheepskin coats and fur leggings, which the season of the country points out as a proper kind of clothing. We are to be housed in Sebastopol in a few days—such is the deduction from these arguments. Agreeing with this idea, a rumour has been prevailing all day in the camp that a French army is close at hand, who are to land at the Katcha, and march against the Russian troops encamped on the heights north of Sebastopol, so as to attack them in the rear. It is said that at the same time the assault will be made by the French on the left, and that a portion of the British force will at the same time attack the Russian flank which is resting on the heights beyond the Inkermann valley. It is said, also, that General Liprandi, having received information of this movement, is already withdrawing his troops from the plain near Balaklava for the purpose of opposing the French troops on their way from the Katcha. How much of all this is true remains to be seen; but such a combined movement, if carried out, would in all probability ensure the fall of the fortress and the dispersion of the Russian army.

Some doubt whether the real condition of the troops is known to Lord Raglan. The military authorities learn the state of their men from official returns, seldom from personal observation. They know the number reported sick, the number returned as effective. They know the amount of rations issued. The interior economy of a regiment, which in home quarters is supposed to be ascertained by reference to certain books and statistics at two half yearly inspections, or by confidential reports, is but little looked into in the field. The General of Division, unless commanding in the presence of an enemy, is rarely seen among his troops. His aides-de-camp carry his orders to the Brigadiers, and from them the "Order Books" carry them to the respective regiments. The Brigade Majors distribute the duties according to the condition of the regiments as shown in the "States" sent in the Brigade-office each morning. Commanding officers of regiments are too much engaged on field duties to attend to any but the most urgent affairs of the day. Captains and officers of companies, when "off duty," are too tired to attend to any but their own concerns; and so it goes on, until at last the soldier is left to his own resources, a condition for which all his previous machine-like training and habits of life totally unfit him. Of course I allude only to the British soldier. The French soldier is generally a man of more cultivated intellect, clearer understanding, and greater acuteness, especially as regards his work as a soldier. His officers, as they approach nearer to his own grade of life, mix more with him, and are more intimately acquainted with his disposition and necessities. British General officers see their men seldom, excepting on parade, and regimental officers too often, if they accomplish the prescribed routine of duty, consider they have done all their part in the work. British soldiers being trained and dressed, and taught to consider themselves as machines, get rusty and out of order, unless they are provided for and looked after, as the customs has been in the garrisons of England and the colonies. But though the bulk of these men are reduced to the condition of machines as nearly as may be, they still have sense, and frames of flesh and blood, and are as liable to all the passions of the one, as they are to the disorders and decay of the other. The changes and movements in the ranks of the soldier, and they are rather important, statistics do not show. Returns do not point out dissatisfaction, sullenness, and despondency, any more than they do the hollow cheek and wasted frame. Returns do not show, though the clothes have been issued, how much they are tattered or worn; though the rations be distributed, whether want of means or opportunity may not prevent them from being properly cooked. There are many things which would be better known, much needless suffering might be spared, much money more judiciously expended, the health and efficiency and comfort of the soldier much better provided for, if general officers saw more of the men under their command, and learned practically by such communication the wants of the soldier, instead of trusting to States and Returns.

A very careless occurrence took place on the 29th ultimo. Some drafts for the 97th, 7th, 23rd, and other regiments had arrived by the Ottawa steamer. They were disembarked shortly before sunset, and ordered to march to their respective regiments, which were encamped in front before Sebastopol. The distance was seven miles, the roads almost impassable, and quite obliterated from sight in consequence of the mud. No officer of the Quartermaster-General's Department accompanied the detachments to show them their route. The consequence was none arrived at their destination until nearly an hour before midnight, many remained out all night, some were taken care of by the French camps, and one man the following afternoon was taken to the hospital of the 23rd Regiment, so ill that he died some hours afterwards. No notice was given of their coming to their respective regiments, so that no food was prepared, nor tents for their reception. No reason could be ascertained why they should have been sent on at so late an hour of the afternoon instead of remaining on board till the following morning.

The large 13-inch mortars have arrived, and are to be divided between the French and our own batteries. Two Lancaster guns have been brought into position to the left of Chapman's battery. The French have mounted their guns in their new square redoubt above the Inkermann valley; they are heavy ships' guns, and will be brought to bear upon the Inkermann Light nearest the water of the roadstead, and the two earthwork batteries which the Russians have thrown up in front and to the left of it. This Lighthouse is constantly during the night repeating signals to the garrison in the town, by means of lights of various colours and numbers, from the second Inkermann light on the hill to the eastward. The guns are not yet mounted in one redoubt which is a little to the westward of the redoubt just named. The Russians have been attempting to interrupt the new works by throwing shot from the Lighthouse Hill batteries, but they have done no damage. They have evidently perceived the object of another new work which is still further to the westward, and commanded the Harbour Creek and Careening Bay, as they have removed some vessels from these situations, and moved them over to a bay near the double battery, on the north side of the roadstead. They have also moved three line-of-battle ships to a further distance than they were from the south shore of the roadstead, as if to be able to use their guns against the new works. The Russian troops on the north heights are very busy fortifying their position; no less than eight new batteries can now be counted on their left flank. These batteries are placed on the brights above a broad ravine, which opens into the Inkermann Valley, east of the Lighthouse-hill. A zigzag road is carried up this ravine, and is the main route of communication between the Russian army and the head of the roadstead, where there is a considerable number of government storehouses, and a range of buildings which appears like a barrack. The batteries command the approach by this road, and protect the left flank of the Russian position.

There have been several sorties made against the French works. A very determined one was made at daybreak this morning, both against the French works and the advanced works in front of our Greenhill battery. The Russians came on in considerable force, and with the usual cheer; but they were repulsed after some sharp skirmishing.

I regret to say that Brigadier-General Pennefather is very seriously unwell. Sir George Brown has so far recovered from the effects of the wound in his arm that he is expected shortly to resume the command of his division.

Some flannel jerseys have been issued to a portion of the troops to-day.

CONDITION OF THE TROOPS.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP OF THE LIGHT DIVISION, Dec. 6.

The Russian Emperor's most powerful and faithful ally, disease, has been actively at work among the British troops. The continued rain, the insufficient diet, even of the salt ration, from the failure of the means of transport, and the almost impassible state of the roads, the constant exposure and absence of shelter, have sapped the strength of the soldier, and they are rather important, statistics do not show. Returns do not point out dissatisfaction, sullenness, and despondency, any more than they do the hollow cheek and wasted frame. Returns do not show, though the clothes have been issued, how much they are tattered or worn; though the rations be distributed, whether want of means or opportunity may not prevent them from being properly cooked. There are many things which would be better known, much needless suffering might be spared, much money more judiciously expended, the health and efficiency and comfort of the soldier much better provided for, if general officers saw more of the men under their command, and learned practically by such communication the wants of the soldier, instead of trusting to States and Returns.

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Some of the regiments have managed to bring up part of the woollen under-clothing sent from England, so that a great proportion of the men will by to-day have a Jersey and pair of drawers of this material. Men are to be sent into Balaklava on fatigue to bring out the remainder of this supply. This will be a comfort and advantage, but warm outer clothing is still urgently required. The coatee and trowsers in present use have been made so contracted in their proportions, and are so weak, that they will not bear the strain of much increased bulk in clothing beneath them, while at the same time the movements of the man's body are impeded by the restraint. From the difficulty, too, of washing and drying their clothes, and from not having a change, the men are not able to keep them properly clean. A warm loose outer coat, easily put on and as easily taken off, has many advantages. The sheepskin coat of the French, which they have now had some time in use, and their leggings put over the trousers, are a convenient and advantageous dress for the work and climate to which the troops are exposed. Nothing could be better, when the temperature becomes more severe, as we have every right to expect it will be soon, than the uniform worn by the British soldiers in North America; even now the warm wadded great coats, and the large boots unblacked and coming over the trowsers as far as the knees, would be of the greatest advantage—particularly the latter—for the purpose of keeping the feet and legs dry and warm.

Yesterday and to-day have been comparatively dry. Very little rain has fallen, but from the misty and moist condition of the atmosphere there has been scarcely any evaporation, and the ground occupied by the camp remains covered with the same depth of mud as before. Along the lower levels of the ravines, and in the valleys on the route to Balaklava, the accumulation has become so great, that it is difficult for the men to pass, and in parts, even for the horses. During the 3rd and 4th instant, day and night, the rain fell with such vehemence and in so considerable a quantity that it poured down the sides of the hills in streams, but the soil is of so tenacious and viscid a character that no perceptible portion was carried away. This was found to be the case, even where the depth from the rock beneath was very slight, and this is partly accounted for by the fact that the lime-stone strata of which these heights are formed is much worn and honeycombed in small hollows, filled with earth, and covered with loose detached fragments on the surface. The sunset of this evening gives promise of a calm night and finer weather to-morrow.

The English part of the camp has been suddenly enlivened by the almost forgotten sounds of the regimental bugles. The French troops have used theirs ever since landing in the Crimea; the employment of our bugles was stopped chiefly to obviate any mistakes or inattention to bugle sounds at the divisional or head-quarters. The band instruments of nearly all the British regiments were left on board the transports on landing, and in cases where the arrival of the transports at Balaklava has enabled the troops to recover them they have been found to have become so disabled by injury on shipboard and disuse as to be almost useless. The British troops, therefore, excepting the two or three regiments lately arrived, have no bands, but the French regiments cheer us up with the enlivening sound of their music when-ever the weather will permit. Some of the officers who have been able to recover their baggage complain much of their portmanteau having been found open and property stolen, and there are no means of tracing the perpetrators or obtaining redress. In the case of one regiment, the 33rd, every bag had been opened, and many robberies committed; but, as the baggage had passed through two transports before reaching the regiment, the responsibility could not be fixed upon either vessel. Some regiments are still without, not having had the opportunity of recovering their baggage.

No material change has occurred in our siege works since my last communication. On the part of the Russians great activity has been displayed in strengthening their defences, both within the town and along their position protecting the dock-yard and arsenal. Around the brow of the hill, in front of the remains of the Round Tower, a strong abattis work has been thrown up, with a ditch and seemingly chevaux-de-frise beyond. A similar work has been thrown up around the hill in front of the Redan, and from the operations going on there is apparently an intention of continuing this line of defence until the communication is completed with that before the Round Tower. All the batteries in this situation have been very strongly reinforced. As many as 31 guns can now be counted in the earthworks on the Round Tower-hill; these could be chiefly brought to bear in the direction of our 21 gun (Capt. Gordon's) battery. Upwards of 50 guns can be counted in the defensive works of the enemy bearing upon the same point. Very few shots, however, have been exchanged from these batteries; the firing has been chiefly on the left against the French works, and the advanced work in front of the Greenhill battery, which was taken from the enemy a short time since by our troops. The last day or two also a considerable number of shells has been directed against the new works on the right. On the 3rd instant only two shots were directed the whole day against Captain Gordon's battery, and these were evidently drawn down upon it by three artillerymen who were walking up and down the battery, and who must have been perceived by the Russians as they passed the embrasures. The first shot struck one of our guns, which it disabled, and overnight carried away the head of one of the artillerymen alluded to. In spite of the number of the Russian gunners destroyed—and these reputed, moreover, to be their best marksmen—the position of their gun sensibly excellent. Two days ago Captain Straugh, of the Artillery, was looking over the parapet of this battery, and was seen by the enemy. A shot was fired, which he fortunately perceived in time to avoid, but his shoulder was considerably bruised, and clothes torn by the earth and stones as he dipped behind the parapet.

The Russians have made some very determined attempts to recover their work in front of the Greenhill battery, but they have all been repulsed by the superior courage and determination of our own troops. On the morning of the 22nd instant, about half an hour before daylight, the 50th Regiment had relieved the 57th in this position, and two companies were posted in the advanced work itself. This consists of a zigzag earth breastwork and slight ditch. There are several small huts near, which the Russians had thrown up for their protection. Excepting these there is nothing but the exposed ground between the breastwork and the wall of the town. The Russians have since contrived to throw up a few hillocks of earth and stones to protect their sharpshooters. There is consequently a difficulty in posting sentries, and it would appear that no proper look out was kept up by the two companies of the 50th on the morning above mentioned. The men, as usual, had lain down and covered themselves up, including their heads, within their blankets. Shortly before dawn about 600 of the enemy, with supports in rear, came against this position. They advanced so stealthily that they were enabled to come up to the very work without being perceived. Some of their leading soldiers climbed up to the parapet, and leaning over, actually bayonetted, or wounded with the butt-ends of their muskets, seven men of the 50th regiment, who were lying within the work. The exclamations of some of these men aroused the others, and a very sharp contest ensued. The Russian force advanced in such numbers that the two companies of the 50th were compelled to vacate the work, but fortunately a party of the 1st battalion Rifle Brigade were at the time on their way to it, and soon came up to their relief. The companies of the 57th, who had quitted the work about half an hour previously, had not yet arrived at their camp, and, hearing the fire, at once turned back. With the aid of these reinforcements, the Russian troops were again compelled to relinquish their hold of this advanced work, and were driven back to the shelter of their walls. The engagement lasted half an hour. The Russians, as they seized the breastwork, gave their usual cheer, which was heard in the tents of the camp above. The following morning (the 23rd) the Russians made another powerful sortie against the work, but were again repulsed. Some of them at first entered one of the huts, where three men of the 50th regiment had ensconced themselves, and were lying asleep wrapped in their blankets. They managed to get in so quietly that their entrance did not awake the sleepers, who were all bayonetted as they were lying on the ground. One man was killed, the other two were wounded severely. The man who entered the hut had very probably before occupied it themselves; they were evidently well acquainted with its locality. Since these two sorties a very heavy fire has been at intervals directed against the work from the Russian batteries. A vast quantity of grape shot has been discharged against it, it being within range of these destructive missiles. The loss among our troops has, however, not been so great as might have been expected. Last night about 10 p.m. the enemy opened a very heavy fire against it, both of grape and shell, and this was succeeded by a sharp fire of musketry. I have not yet heard the particulars. The 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade have had altogether forty men placed *hors de combat* in defending this work, including those who fell, or who were wounded, in taking it. Its importance, however, must make us hold it at all hazards. Much of the fire which was previously directed against the advanced French works has been directed against it. The Russian troops have thus evinced their annoyance at its loss.

The defences in the town have been greatly increased. Many of the houses can be seen to be loopholed, and guns are planted in nearly all the screw's. A battery has been erected in the Place d'Armes, the guns of which enfilade several streets opening into it. Notwithstanding these arrangements, I have very little doubt that when the assault is made the French and English troops will carry all before them. There is confidence on the one side; there cannot be on the other. The Russian officers will not have the same opportunity of urging on and exciting their men as in operations in the field. In an assault of this nature success will depend more upon individual bravery and determination than upon generalship. There must, of course, be a considerable loss, but the energy of our allies and the pluck of our own men will endure long after the Russian, which I suspect is often of the same quality as that vulgarly called Dutch courage, shall have evaporated. Some of the French, out of bravado, have already several times entered the part of the town near their advanced works, taking advantage of the night, and have chalked up their names and the number of their regiments on the walls of the houses. What we want now is the arrival of our reinforcements, and a few days of dry and fine weather, to enable us to bring up guns and munitions. The arrival of mules and horses, and means of conveyance, is also of the utmost importance.

Two Russian steamers performed a very daring exploit to-day. One was a steam frigate, and the other the Vladimir, which is constantly on the move in the roadstead, and had often annoyed us with a gun of long range. At half-past one this day (4th) the frigate suddenly moved from its position, not far from the entrance to Carenning Bay, and proceeded under full steam toward the entrance of the roadstead. As she passed along a rapid discharge of shells was made against our new batteries on the right, especially a square redoubt placed so as to command some of the Russian ships on the south side of the inlet. Our guns are not yet mounted on this work. The movement of the Russian frigate became an object of general attention to all the troops on the heights from which a view of the roadstead could be obtained. To the surprise of all she went past Fort Nicholas and Cape Alexander, and pursued her course boldly out to sea, attended by the Vladimir. Her object was soon explained. Rounding the Quarantine Fort and Harbour, she stood off beyond that part of the coast where are said to be the ruins of ancient Chersonesus, and then commenced to throw shot and shell towards the French works, which were thus enfiladed by her guns. Two English steamers, one of which appeared to be the Valorous, got up their steam as quickly as possible, and also a French steam line-of-battle ship. As soon as they were able to move down upon the adventurous Russian vessel, they of course compelled her to desist from her fire against the French works and drove her to seek for shelter again within the batteries of the roadstead. Both she and the Vladimir, who appeared to act as an attendant upon her, got safely back. The Valorous chasing them too closely in was fired upon by Fort Constantine, and also by some battery on the heights above. Some of the shots must have gone very close to her if they did not actually strike. Why the Russian vessel chose the broad daylight for such an exploit, instead of pursuing under cover of the darkness of night, is a mystery; unless it were designedly planned with a view of bringing some of our vessels within range of the guns of the batteries.

The following memorandum has been issued:

"Camp above Sebastopol, 5th December, 1854.

"Head-quarters.—Memorandum.—There appears to be no reason why the tattoo and reveille should not sound in the usual manner, and the various calls and sounds, by which, under ordinary circumstances, the duties of camps are carried on; they may therefore be resumed.

(Signed) "J. B. Estcourt, Adjutant General."

THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP OF THE LIGHT DIVISION, Dec. 11.

The failure of the means of transport has continued to engross a large share of attention among the British troops in camp, and is still a serious difficulty both as regards feeding the men and horses, and also in respect to carrying on the siege operations. When the carts failed, dependence was placed upon bât horses; the greater number of these are now so footsore or worn out as to be unable to move, and the men themselves have to be sent in to Balaklava from the camp to bring out rations. A certain proportion of each regiment is sent in to the town every morning. The weight carried does not exceed twenty or twenty-two pounds of biscuit and pork, and yet so weak are the men that many fall out, unable to march 14 miles and to carry this burden 7 miles, while others have to be taken into hospital on their return to camp on account of illness. The 90th regiment, attached to the 2nd Division by general orders of the 6th December, and 34th regiment, have been prevented from taking their share in the work at the trenches, and so relieving their comrades who are suffering from prolonged exposure and labour, because, if brought to camp, there are no means of bringing food to them; they have therefore been detained and encamped at Balaklava. The Cavalry Division has also been brought as near Balaklava as possible, and an excellently protected position has been found for it in a deep mountain dell close to the little village of Kadikoi, near the entrance to the port. This dell is nearly triangular in form, the mountains rise precipitously upwards on the three sides, the small plain enclosed by them is soft and when first occupied was covered with grass, and excepting at the entrance communicating with the village is sheltered on all sides from high winds. At one of the angles opposite to the opening to Kadikoi is a narrow winding gorge, and along this mountain pass is a road leading up to the plateau on which the allied army is encamped. There could not be a more favourable position for a cavalry bivouac in a cold season. But at present its most favourable aspect is the facility afforded by its nearness to the port for obtaining the necessary hay and corn for the horses, and the rations for the men. When reflecting on the very serious evils which have been experienced from a comparatively short occurrence of bad weather, and those too in the very first and most essential article of food, we have indeed reason to be grateful for the very long season of propitious weather which preceded it. At the same time it is difficult to avoid the consideration whether such evils are a necessary consequence of the change in weather, whether the exercise of a certain amount of forethought and precaution might not have obviated their occurrence. We have ocular proof around us that they are not inevitable; we see the beneficial effects of a different system pursued elsewhere. And it happens from no want of forewarning. Attention was called to the unprotected state of the British flight long before the fatal 5th of November; and had that warning been heeded—had a simple breastwork been then constructed, and a few guns mounted such as are now placed in front of the 2nd Division—much bloodshed might have been prevented, and many very valuable lives spared. In like manner the formation of commissariat depôts was suggested, and had these suggestions been carried into effect, much loss of life, both of men and horses, would by so doing have now been avoided. But many of the most obvious exigencies have not been provided for. No arrangement has ever been made, nor is even now made, for shoeing the public horses, and this circumstance alone has led to many being disabled. In Bulgaria, after a long time had elapsed, and much [illegible] before [illegible] were brought, and a price fixed at which the bat animals could be shod. No such plan has been adopted in the Crimea, nor any alternative provided. It was only on the 8th inst. that the following general order appeared:—"Officers of the infantry may have their chargers shod by application to the Royal Artillery or Cavalry." But even this permission is rendered inert, because the officer commanding a battery or regiment of cavalry may regret that

be cannot allow the shoeing to be done in consequence of his farriers having so much work for the battery or regiment in hand.

This morning upwards of one thousand sick men of the English regiments were carried down to Balaklava by the French ambulance corps. They were brought on the mule pannier seats, two sick men being carried by each mule. Some were taken lying at full length, with a covered hood and curtain protecting the face and body, but the majority were sitting. They were sent in certain proportions to each regiment, and, after receiving their convoy, were formed up at the head quarters of each division. The journey to Balaklava was performed in half the time which would have been occupied by the ambulance waggons. All the mules were fat and sleek, not a nail was wanting in a shoe, not a strap or buckle appeared to be out of order. The Corps d'Infirmiers, who conducted the train, officers, and men, were all active, in good health, cheerful, and manifestly understood all the details of the employment in which they were occupied. The mules came chiefly from the Quartier General at Cherasonese; had they collected those also remaining with the Divisional Ambulances they could have conveyed double the number.

There is a very great amount of sickness continuing in the British camp. The fine weather of the last few days has done some good in arresting its increase, but now that the labour of carrying up the rations from Balaklava is added to the severe duties in the trenches, this benefit will in some degree be counteracted. We trust that the fold weather may continue until the means of hutting, and other necessaries, are brought. A general order appeared the other day, of which the following is a copy :—" Until further orders the issue of fuel will be limited to the troops encamped upon the heights before Sebastopol." From the wording of this order, one would be led to imagine that fuel had already been issued to these troops, but such has never been the case. No fuel has yet been obtained; and indeed, if it could be got, there would be no means of transporting it from Balaklava to the regiments, unless carried by the men themselves. I hear a question constantly asked—" Where are our private bat horses?" They were left at Varna when the army left for the Crimea. The officers would gladly part with these for less money than they gave for them, as they are utterly useless to them where they are. Some say they have left Varna, and have been sent by land up to Constantinople.

We have experienced great varieties of weather and temperature since I last wrote, but the general state of the atmosphere has been favourable for carrying off the excessive moisture on the surface of the ground, and the wind now only remains accumulated in certain localities to such an extent as seriously to impede the progress of vehicles or passengers. The 7th Instant was particularly favourable in this respect. A cool dry wind blew from the north, while the sun exerted unusual power through the medium of a cloudless sky. An unexpected atmospheric condition followed. No sooner had the sun set below the horizon and its rays been withdrawn, than the abundant moisture which it had caused to be evaporated from the surface of the earth, became suddenly chilled and condensed by the north wind, and a thick fog enveloped everything around. Many returning from Balaklava could not find their way to camp. The fog came so rapidly that it appeared like a wall of dark cloud sweeping along from the northward. There had just been an alarm that the Russians were coming out of Sebastopol in strong force, and notice of an expected attack on the works had been sent up by one of the advanced pickets to the General commanding the Light Division, but the think mist quickly removed all opportunities of observation. The covering parties in the trenches were put upon the alert, sentries were increased in all directions, and every precaution adopted, but no attack followed. It is said, where the fog has been taken, must always be more unfavorable to an attacking than to the attacked force. The fog continued all night, and did not disappear until the following morning, after the sun had again exerted its rarefying influence. During the night there was a sharp frost, and daylight showed the ground covered with a white coating of hoar and thin ice and the distant mountains capped with snow. The wind changed to the south-east and south on the 8th, and has continued blowing from the same direction. Slight rain has fallen once or twice, and the temperature, since the change of wind, has been remarkably mild.

Some guns have been brought up, but with immense exertion, as many as 40 or 60 horses having been employed in some instances. Not only the state of the roads, but the weakened condition of the horses also, have acted as serious impediments to their transport. The larger kinds of mortars require much exertion for their conveyance—the dead weight of the mass of metal falling upon two wheels instead of being distributed over the carriage, as in the case of ordinary cannon, in some measure will account for the difficulty of their draught.

The new road from Balaklava is progressing. The great depth of the mud in parts, and the labour in making a firm foundation before covering it with the smaller fragments, so that it may resist sufficiently the heavy weights which will have to pass over it, prevent it from advancing so quickly as might be wished. But several French regiments have afforded their aid to that part of the road which adjoins the port of Balaklava, and they, as in all else they do, are working at it systematically and with alacrity. There, at least, will be an excellent macadamised road. In other parts working parties of the Ottoman troops are engaged, but it is evidently a labour they have not been used to or don't understand. What an advantage a few hundreds of our railway excavators would be to us just now, if we only had the means of feeding, hutting, and keeping them in the condition we are used to see them in England!—The labour and expense of constructing a seven miles railway a month or six weeks ago would have almost been repaid by the saving in time, labour, and life which would have been effected through its agency ere this time.

Scarcely any change has taken place in the batteries the last few days. The French have a number of new guns mounted, which are being kept in reserve; for use, it is presumed, at a period not very long distant. The firing in the Greenhill and Frenchman's-hill batteries has been very slack, and generally in the Russian batteries opposed to them. Our position in rear of Frenchman's hill (or Gordon's) battery is being strengthened by a breastwork and ditch which, went completed, will extend from the two ravines known as the left ravine and the middle or Ochakow ravine. Some guns are about to be mounted for the purpose of more efficiently guarding against an approach of the enemy by these ravines, especially the latter, which, as I mentioned in a letter some time since, has been left too wholly dependent upon the alertness and determination of a single picket for its protection. The attack upon the position occupied by the Second Division has roused the authorities to take the necessary steps to prevent the recurrence of a similar attack upon the portion of the encampment which crosses the southern extremity of the left ravine and ravine of Ochakow. The Russians have been making frequent attempts to impede the progress of the new works to the right, but the shells which they have thrown have done little mischief. They are thrown from vessels in the roadstead, lying near its south side, and it appears that these have to be so far careened over in order to acquire the necessary elevation that the precision of the aim is thereby destroyed. The enemy succeeded in disabling one of our large recently mounted guns on the 8th inst., in the Greenhill battery, by a well-directed shot. A shell entered the gun and burst within it, ripping up the side. No one was hurt, as sufficient warning was afforded for every one near to run into shelter.

The same day that this last mentioned occurrence took place loud and prolonged cheering was heard in Sebastopol. It was generally attributed to being the sound of welcome to fresh reinforcements. Boats laden with troops and cattle had been observed frequently during the day crossing from the north side towards the south side of the roadstead. Preparations were [illegible] in the evening, but none was attempted. On the 10th a very long convoy was observed approaching the shoulder of Sebastopol by the coast-road, on the heights between the Katcha and Belbec valleys. They were readily distinguished as they came along that part of the road which slopes down to the latter of the two valleys. With a good telescope they could be observed to be solid, well-constructed waggons, not country arabas, covered with a sort of hood, and of uniform colour and shape. There were about three hundred. Whether they contained troops or provisions could not be made out. This road, after descending into the valley, crosses the Belbec river and then diverges into two distinct routes—one leading to Baktchi Serai, the other being continued southwards and terminating at the back of Cape Constantine. A large herd of cattle and two or three flocks of sheep are seen on the hills on the north side of the roadstead, a little below and to the west of the Star Fort, so that it is

difficult to understand the reports brought in by deserters of the great scarcity of provisions in the Russian camp.

It is doubtful whether the Russian army on the heights north of the Inkermann valley has not received an increase in its numbers: it appears to stretch over a greater extent of ground. The movement which took place among the Russian troops in the plain near Balaklava on the 6th instant appears to have been in all probability an exchange in position with a part of the force on the northern heights. A reconnaissance was made the following day by a French force of infantry, and it was discovered that the position had not been abandoned. Some of the force previously lying in the plain have moved higher up the hills, probably on account of the marshy state of the low ground in the valley.

Leave of absence to proceed to England for the recovery of health has been granted to Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, commanding the Light Cavalry Brigade. Lieut.-Colonel Berkeley, Scots Fusilier Guards; Captain Watson, 7th Royal Fusiliers; Quartermaster Nowlan, 63rd Regiment; and Paymaster J. Thorp, 63rd Regiment, have also left for England on the recommendation of medical boards. Lieut.-General Sir George Brown has nearly recovered from the effects of his wound in the arm, and will resume command of the Light Division in a few days. Major-General Pennefather, who took command of the 2nd Division after the departure of Lieut.-General Sir De Lacy Evans, has also been compelled to leave on account of a serious attack of illness, and Brigadier-General G. Buller is now acting as general of that division. Lieut.-Colonel Shirley, commanding the 68th, or Connaught Rangers, is now acting as brigadier of the 2nd brigade of the Light Division, in place of General Buller. Lieut.-Colonel Davenay, of the 1st Royal Regiment, resigns his position as commandant of Balaklava, being unable to continue discharging the duties of this office, which are somewhat arduous, on account of ill-health. It is understood that he is to be succeeded by Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Haines, of the 21st Fusiliers. Many officers of the regiments in camp are suffering from sickness. The plan adopted for their medical treatment is as follows: If the regimental surgeons find that the means at their command are not sufficient, they recommend a removal to shipboard at Balaklava, where the sick have at least protection against weather, and the opportunity of obtaining better food. This failing, the officer is recommended leave of absence, for change of air, for a stated period, either to Therapia or Scutari. In cases where the case is likely to be very protracted, and the medical board recommends such a course to be adopted, the patient is permitted to leave for England, reporting himself for further observation to the military authorities at the Horse Guards.

Dec. 12.—About half-past 11 o'clock last evening the Russians made a most determined attack upon the advanced work in front of the Greenhill battery, and also upon the advanced work of the French. After an hour's of sap fighting the fire was silenced and the enemy driven back. The moon had risen, but the atmosphere was hazy. The attack commenced in the left ravine within winds between Greenhill and Frenchman's-hill. Fortunately about a fortnight since a breastwork and ditch were thrown up across the ravine, and extended up the sides to be connected with Captain Chapman's battery on the left, and Captain Gordon's on the right. The earthwork was defended by a party of the Rifle Brigade. The enemy came stealthily on at first, but, finding the picket prepared, rushed on in great force, and with a loud cheer which was heard in the English camp. The heavy guns, which had been discharging at intervals all the evening, ceased their fire; the combatants were at too close quarters for artillery to be used without equal risk to friend and foe. Presently the fire of musketry extended along the advanced position before Captain Chapman's battery, and not long afterwards a smart fusillade opened in the French lines. The bugles of the different regiments, and the drums of the marines in camp had long since sounded the alarm, the men had got under arms, and were now moving to their respective stations in support of the pickets. The Russians, surmising or perceiving the approach of these supports, threw rapid discharges of shell and round shot, in the hope of annoying or arresting them in their advance. After the lapse of about half-an-hour, during which the fire of the musketry was incessant, the Russians began to retire, and the batteries from the town then cast rapid volleys of grape and shell against the positions of the covering parties of the batteries. The ground appeared to be most warmly contested in the direction of the French advanced works, as the fire of musketry continued for some time in that situation after it had ceased altogether in the ravine where it had first commenced. Upwards of an hour had passed before the attack was sufficiently silenced for the regiments to return to their camps.

The day is now sunny, bright, and warm. It appears as if we were again about to be favoured with a duration of fine and favourable weather for the siege operations.

LETTERS FROM THE CRIMEA.

(FROM AN OFFICER.)

Dec. 16, 1854.

One of the worst and most culpable items of Lord Raglan's want of forethought has been, it appears to me, the little care he has taken to prevent sickness among the men. I wish you could see our condition at the moment I am writing. Yesterday (the 15th) we had rain all day, and it poured incessantly all night. Towards morning the wind became more northerly, and, instead of rain, snow fell The ground is now white, notwithstanding the slush and mud, and it continues snowing heavily. In the ravine the water is flowing with the noise and fulness of a considerable stream. An order has just been given for 70 men to go into Balaklava for the rations of salt pork and biscuit for the regiment; the bât horses, from neglect of shoeing, inattention, and overwork, have foundered days ago. These men have not been able to get any breakfast, because the little brushwood they have collected would not burn in such weather. Some of the men have been out in the trenches or on picket all night, and are drenched through. Can you wonder at there being disease? Notwithstanding the immense number of sick sent away lately, there are at this time 600 sick in the Light Division to-day. In general orders there appears a notification "that in future the issue of fuel will be limited to the troops encamped above Sebastopol." Now, would not any one seeing this order imagine that we, in common with others, had had fuel issued to us? Yet, I assure you, upon my honour, we have never had one ounce issued to us since we have been here. And as to there being fuel at Balaklava for us, it might as well be in London; for the authorities know—or ought to know, if they cared to do so—that we have not the means of bringing it up. We have hard work, from the fact of no roads having been attempted to be constructed until the weather was too bad to make them, and from the failure of our limited means of transport to get up the daily allowance of pork and biscuit for the men, and they are frequently compelled to subsist on half-rations. Do you remember Lord Raglan promising in his Alma despatch that he would take steps to bring up the officers' bât horses as soon as possible? They have never been brought up yet, and some regiments are to this day without the baggage they had to leave in the transports on landing. Unless persons are sent out to meet the vessels home, which we read are coming to us, we shall never get them; they will remain as lumber at Balaklava, or be monopolised elsewhere. From the constant exposure to the weather, the little rest at night, the small allowance of food and the great difficulty of cooking it, the want of proper clothing, and other matters, you can scarcely conceive what the men encamped before Sebastopol and engaged in the siege operations have been suffering; from what I hear, I am quite sure that Lord Raglan, who is never seen among us, has no idea of it. At head-quarters, where there are all the luxuries of a good house and a good table, matters are very different, and at Balaklava, and near it, the troops have many advantages which cannot be obtained here. They can always get their full rations, and are in the way of procuring many things from the ships in harbour. We who are here can see what a different result there would have been had only a moderate amount of the caution and forethought been exercised by our military powers which our allies have exhibited. Instead of being diminished to a mere handful of effective men, as we are at present, from disease and loss in battle, we should have been a good efficient force. Dazzled by despatches and brilliant displays of personal prowess and heroic exploits, you people in England may not now see this; but I expect soon you, when you come to "pay the bill," may have a suspicion that some of the items in the account are a little higher than they need have been. I know very well that, were one of your silly bones to conduct their affairs as I have seen the great military establishment in the Crimea carried on, there would be but one result, and that would be succumbed in the Gazette too, though not an extraordinary one for the purpose perhaps. We should think ourselves well off if we had the means of hutting ourselves, but we have no timber for roofing, and it is cruel to ask the men, who are half dead from their ordinary work and fatigue duties, to do any extra labour. A few have contrived to get huts erected, and, though no servant would live in such a dwelling in England, I assure you their proprietors are envied enough here.

We are getting up the heavy guns but slowly; the roads

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Journal of the Siege. Dec. 1854. Siege Coll.

are deep, the mud deep, and the horses more obedient of their former selves. The French are helping to bring up some of our shell and shot. A Russian three-decker and a two-decker have been hard at work at us lately. I hope when we get the long 32's and 13-inch mortars into play our artillerymen will be able to settle some of the ships. They have not got much damage from us yet.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Dec. 17.—No change of importance has occurred since I last wrote, in the relative position of the hostile forces. The preparations for a vigorous demonstration are advancing, though slowly, on account of the continued unpropitious weather. The 13-inch mortars have been brought up, and are now lying in the left artillery park, ready to be placed in position as soon as a favourable opportunity shall occur. By their side are also the long 32-pounders, from which, on account of the accuracy of their fire, good execution is expected.

During the last two days and nights heavy rain has fallen incessantly. The weather is a matter of very serious importance in many respects. The roads become so impassable after a fall of rain of any duration, that not only the progress of the siege operations is interrupted, from the difficulty of transporting guns or ammunition, but even the troops suffer in their supply of rations. When I speak of roads I use a wrong term, for literally there is now no road between the camp before Sebastopol and Balaklava, excepting the road now in course of construction, and which as yet only extends as far as the cavalry camp. Over the remaining part of the way each vehicle and passenger takes its own direction across the undulating hills which constitute the surface of the plateau occupied by the allied armies. The labour of bringing up the guns and mortars has been very great, and it has required a great number of our wearied horses to perform the task. The ascent from the low ground near Balaklava, the successive undulations of the plateau, and the peculiarly tenacious and adhesive character of the soil have been severe obstacles to overcome. Our French allies are now lending us assistance in bringing up the heavy ammunition. Many of the regiments in camp are living truly "from hand to mouth," and have to send in large parties daily to carry out the provisions of salt pork and biscuit. The condition of these men after their seven miles' march into the town, frequently drenched through, and many of them having been up the night before in the trenches, is lamentable in the extreme; and it is difficult to understand how they contrive to accomplish the journey back with their loads. No wonder that the hospitals are full. There has been great absence of forethought in not having stored up depots of provisions in camp, and in not having provided better means for the care and protection of the very limited number of bat animals attached to the army. The officers' private bat animals have never been brought up yet, and no one seems to know where they are. There seems to be no doubt they have left Varna. Were they with their owners they might be turned to very valuable account now. An arrangement has at last been made for shoeing the public horses in the possession of regiments, but the way in which it is to be done affords a curious illustration of the manner in which things intended for one branch of the service are appropriated by other departments. In addition to the ambulance waggons sent out to the army in the East for the conveyance of the wounded, were several store waggons, store carts, and one or two forge carts. These were organised to form part of the ambulance establishment, and a pamphlet was published under the superintendence of Mr. Goodeve and others to explain their contents and uses. One only of these store waggons and one of the forge carts found their way to the Crimea, and they have remained at head quarters. Now that, driven to extremity, it is found that the bat animals shoe lately require more attention than they have hitherto had, a public use is discovered for the forge cart. By general order the commissariat are desired to issue Turkish shoes and nails to the regiments requiring them for their bat horses. The shoeing is to be done at the ambulance forge at head-quarters. Fuel is also to be issued to the troops, and we hear of wooden houses, and warm greatcoats and other clothing coming; but how they are to be taken up to the camp remains to be seen.

The 90th and 34th regiments marched up to the camp on the 13th instant. They have been attached for the present to the Light Division, whose numbers have been greatly diminished by sickness. The 88th has also arrived, and is to be attached to the Third Division.

The Russians have been using of late a 13-inch shell against Frenchman's Hill. Considering the enormous weight of the metal, and the amount of the exploding powder, together with the accuracy of range the artillerymen have obtained, it is wonderful that the discharge should have done so little mischief. I have only heard of two cases of injury inflicted by it, and yet the ground where it falls is torn up into deep pits. In one case, it exploded near a sailor, and the poor fellow was literally blown away, for scarcely any portion of him remained on the spot where he had been standing. The Russians for a long time abstained from the use of this mortar, and by some it has been supposed that the notice by the correspondent of the *Times* of the execution done by "Whistling Dick" has been the cause of his services being resumed. I know not what foundation there is for the supposition. The last few days the Russians have been directing a very heavy fire against a redoubt which is being made on Frenchman's Hill, in front of the camp of the Light Division. This position has been frequently spoken of as being the weakest part of the camp, now that that of the extreme right has been covered. There, indeed, assurance has been made doubly sure, both by entrenchments and armed redoubts in front, as well as by strong reinforcements from the French being placed in rear of the 2nd Division. When the redoubt in front of the Light Division is completed, and connected with the breastworks lately made across the left and middle ravines, that position will also be secured, but hitherto it has been open to attack. It can only have been from the supposition that there were protecting works which could not be seen that the Russians have not hitherto made some attempt in this direction, especially at the same time that the engagement of the 5th November was fought at Inkerman, as there was nothing in the nature of the ground to prevent them from bringing up a strong body of troops with artillery. They appear to have discovered the weakness of this part of the line now, and there have been frequent alarms in the Light Division camp in consequence. On the 15th a very strong force was observed approaching towards the middle ravine, for the purpose apparently of reconnoitring. The Light Division was quickly under arms, and some of the regiments advanced, but no result ensued beyond a slight skirmishing with some of the enemy's riflemen and our advanced pickets. There has been an inquiry into an alleged want of medical care and treatment—especially in respect to the number of orderlies employed—afforded to a large number of sick troops placed on board the *Avon*. The result has been a very severe reprimand in general orders by the commander of the forces directed against Fleet-Class Staff Surgeon Dr. Lawson, who is ordered to be removed from the position he previously held of principal medical officer at Balaklava. Dr. Hall, the chief of the medical staff of the army, is also strongly animadverted upon in the same orders, and it is difficult to understand how he can continue to hold such a position with the reflections cast upon him of inattention to the duties of his office.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Dec. 22.—Rain has continued to prevail almost without intermission since I last wrote, and the state of the roads has been frequently such as very much to impede the progress of operations. On the 20th and morning of the 21st inst., however, we had a striking example of veritable nature of the climate of this portion of the Peninsula; for during the interval—namely, while the atmosphere became so bright and clear, the temperature so mild, and the sun's influence during the day so powerful, that it was difficult to realise

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the idea of being so close to Christmas. Most of the heavy guns and mortars are now in their respective parks, and some are already mounted ready for action. A large quantity of the ammunition has been brought up to the camp. There does not appear to be any likelihood now of the assault taking place so soon as was expected. Meanwhile the enemy is taking advantage of every favourable day by mounting guns, raising barriers across the streets, loopholing walls and houses, to resist our attack whenever and in whatever direction it may be made. I doubt not, however, in spite of all these defences, that that part of Sebastopol will speedily fall, when once we have succeeded in crippling the enemy's ships. It is a mistake to suppose that his vessels of war have been as much injured, or weakened, by our guns, as has been represented by many correspondents. By the great facility of changing position, getting shelter behind projecting points or under high cliffs, and from their guns hitherto not having been of sufficient range, they have contrived to elude every effort at destruction, and escaped with scarcely any damage. They are one of the most serious obstacles in the way of our taking the town, and would still be so should we succeed in mounting our keeping possession of it, were the harbour denied to remain in their present whole and unbroken state. Whether the new naval commander-in-chief will be able to assist us by his tactics in riddling the besieging army of this thorn in their side remains to be proved. On the night of the 19th instant Colonel Gordon traced out a new work very far in advance. But these strongly made or in course of construction works are close, that from it a stone may be thrown into the sea—and the guns of which, there is little doubt, will command the shipping over a very extensive portion of the roadstead. I refrain, for evident motives, from publishing the position of this latest work, until it is more completed.

There is no doubt of a considerable force of Turks, or Asiatic troops having landed at Eupatoria, both these reports of its numerical strength are so various and conflicting, that I forbear from alluding to the subject. French reinforcements arrive daily. The *Ava*, and *Albert* has arrived safely with the reinforcements for the Brigade of Guards, and its other detachments. The 17th Regiment has landed, and will encamped near Balaklava; it is to be attached to the 4th Division. Sickness, I regret, is still prevalent among our French reinforcements to a very serious extent among our troops, especially in the regiments lately arrived and among the young soldiers, many of them mere boys, who have been sent out as drafts to the regiments previously weakened by the campaign. However, when they are climbing and the hard arrive, it is trusted the progress of the disease will be arrested, for how every side it is attributed chiefly to the exposure, privation and exposure in their respects to which the troops have been exposed. The deaths issued this men of the Royal Artillery who have just arrived Capt. Wragge's and Capt. Campbell's companies before leaving England has been much admired filtering their long leather boots coming over the trousers up above the knees are considered particularly appropriate and serviceable in keeping the feet and legs warm and dry. The waterproof coats will also prove very valuable. Great satisfaction has been their among the men at the prospect of getting the warm garments and shelter, announced in orders to be their way to the army. An issue of fuel has also been announced and it is understood will be continued regularly.

We are again indebted to the French ambulance corps for the removal of a great number of our hurt from camp to Balaklava. Although the weather most unfavourable—heavy rain has been falling—night and is still continuing (Dec. 22), without present prospect of a change—it has been thought better to send the invalids on, so great a number accumulated in the field hospitals. Eight hundred sick are returned this day in one division of the army alone, and the other divisions in the Sebastopol are suffering in nearly the same proportion.

Yesterday morning (Dec. 21), a little before 4 o'clock, the whole camp before Sebastopol was suddenly aroused by bugles sounding the alarm. A strong noise ran from regiment to regiment, many instances followed by the "double," the troops started up from their sleep and were quickly under arms. The night was fine and starlight, but there was no moon visible. Along the whole line of batteries was heard the sharp fire of musketry, and the sky was constantly illumined by the reflected flashes of the heavy guns and the flight of shells in the air. To the westward, in the direction of Cape Chersen and the fleet, were also frequent flashes of light, which, at first, it was not easy to determine (as upon further examination they proved to be) were only the effects of electric disturbance in the atmosphere. The wind was blowing from the south, and in consequence of this direction and some peculiar condition of the air, neither the discharge of the heavy guns in the batteries nor the bursting of the shells made the intense booming impression on the ear which, under other circumstances, from their numbers, they would have made. Some of the shot were thrown very far forward, and this fact, together with the direction of the shells, proved that many of them were aimed at reliefs or parties which might be expected to be approaching from the camp to assist the men in the trenches. The rush of three missiles in opposition to the current of air was particularly and most unpleasantly audible as the regiments moved on in advance to the support; but although the shot were heard to fall thickly around, no casualty was occasioned by them.

The cause of the alarm and turn out proved to be a sortie made by the Russians against the advanced works, both of the English and French batteries. Distinct attacks had been made nearly at the same time on the troops in advance of Captain Gordon's battery on Frenchman's Hill, and on those protecting the advanced work which some time since was wrested from the Russians, another body approached the entrenchment originally made in advance of Captain Chapman's battery on Greenhill. The enemy came on in comparatively small limited numbers against the advanced work in front of Frenchman's Hill as almost to lead to the belief that it was planned as a feint, while the more earnest attack was made against Greenhill and the advanced French works.

I wish I could write that the attack had been met as it ought to have been. It is painful to be compelled to state that, on the contrary, in both of the British positions, there was an inexcusable amount of negligence, and that in consequence there was established, though in a very limited and diminutive scale comparatively, a repetition of the disastrous victory of Inkermann. But though comparatively trifling in its results, had the Russians been aware of our failing, and in force sufficient to take advantage of it, the issue might have been very serious, especially at Frenchman's Hill, for the guns in the battery might have been disabled, and the contest carried into the very camp of the Light Division, as before into that of the Second Division. Neither men nor officers were on the alert; and all were taken by surprise. There were eight companies in the advanced work of Captain Gordon's battery, taken from the 7th, 23rd, 33rd, and 34th Regiments, and this force, properly prepared and organised, was sufficient to hold it against double the number of the enemy who attacked it. As it was, however, the sentries posted only a few yards in front of the work must have been shortly cavilcos, and in all probability were lying down, if not asleep; for the first intimation of the attack to the men and officers lying within the work was given by the shouts of the Russians themselves who had mounted the parapet, and were already commencing havoc among the sleepers. The consequence was there was a panic, scarcely any resistance was made, and the covering party hastily fell back upon the battery. Some of the men even crowded in at the embrasures, and thus prevented the guns being used against the Russians who had gained possession of the advanced work. Others crowding within the battery impeded the fire of the troops stationed there for a time; but when order was restored and an advance was made to regain from the enemy the work they were supposed to be still holding, it was found they had already abandoned it. They were not in sufficient force to retain it, extending as it does for a long distance across the hill towards the ravine or Ochakov ravine; but they had left behind them a considerable booty in arms, blankets, [illegible] ammunition. Five men were killed, and [illegible] wounded, even to their boots. One body was found with eight bayonet wounds; another [illegible] and thrown into the well. Fifteen were taken prisoners so badly, that they were left for dead. The work by the Russians. These had been most humanely treated, having been repeatedly [illegible]

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[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Dec. 17.—No change of importance has occurred since I last wrote, in the relative position of the hostile forces. The preparations for a vigorous demonstration are advancing, though slowly, on account of the continued unpropitious weather. The 13-inch mortars have been brought up, and are now lying in the left artillery park, ready to be placed in position as soon as a favourable opportunity shall occur. By their side are also the long 32-pounders, from which, on account of the accuracy of their fire, good execution is expected.

During the last two days and nights heavy rain has fallen incessantly. The weather is a matter of very serious importance in many respects. The roads become so impassable after a fall of rain of any duration, that not only the progress of the siege operations is interrupted, from the difficulty of transporting guns or ammunition, but even the troops suffer in their supply of rations. When I speak of roads I use a wrong term, for literally there is now no road between the camp before Sebastopol and Balaklava, excepting the road now in course of construction, and which as yet only extends as far as the cavalry camp. Over the remaining part of the way each vehicle and passenger takes its own direction across the undulating hills which constitute the surface of the plateau occupied by the allied armies. The labour of bringing up the grass and mortars has been very great, and it has required a great number of our weakened horses to perform the task. The ascent from the low ground near Balaklava, the successive undulations of the plateau, and the peculiarly tenacious and adhesive character of the mud have been severe obstacles to overcome. Our French allies are now lending us assistance in bringing up the heavy ammunition. Many of the regiments in camp are living truly "from hand to mouth," and have to send in large parties daily to carry out the provisions of salt pork and biscuit. The condition of these men after their seven miles' march into the town, frequently drenched through, and many of them having been up the night before in the trenches, is lamentable in the extreme; and it is difficult to understand how they contrive to accomplish the journey back with their loads. No wonder that the hospitals are full. There has been great absence of forethought in not having stored up depots of provisions in camp, and in not having provided better means for the care and protection of the very limited number of bat animals attached to the army. The officers' private bat animals have never been brought up yet, and no one seems to know where they are. There seems to be no doubt they have left Varna. Were they with their owners they might be turned to very valuable account now. An arrangement has at last been made for shoeing the public horses in the possession of regiments, but the way in which it is to be done affords a curious illustration of the manner in which things intended for one branch of the service are appropriated by other departments. In addition to the ambulance waggons sent out to the army in the East for the conveyance of the wounded, were several store waggons, store carts, and one or two forge carts. These were organised to form part of the ambulance establishment, and a pamphlet was published under the superintendence of Mr. Guthrie and others to explain their contents and uses. One only of these store waggons and one of the forge carts found their way to the Crimea, and they have remained at head quarters. Now that, driven to extremity, it is found that the bat animals absolutely require more attention than they have hitherto had, a public use is discovered for the forge cart. By general order the commissariat are desired to issue Turkish shoes and nails to the regiments requiring them for their bat horses. The shoeing is to be done at the ambulance forge at head-quarters. Fuel is also to be issued to the troops, and we hear of wooden houses, and warm greatcoats and other clothing coming; but how they are all to be taken up to the camp rear-time to be seen.

The 90th and 34th regiments marched up to the camp on the 13th instant. They have been attached for the present to the Light Division, whose numbers have been greatly diminished by sickness. The 55th has also arrived, and is to be attached to the Third Division.

The Russians have been using of late a 13-inch shell against Frenchman's Hill. Considering the enormous weight of the metal, and the amount of explosive powder, together with the accuracy of range the artillerymen have obtained, it is wonderful that the discharge should have done so little mischief. I have only heard of two cases of injury inflicted by it, and yet the ground where it falls is torn up into deep pits. In one case, it exploded near a sailor, and the poor fellow was literally blown away, for scarcely any portion of him remained on the spot where he had been standing. The Russians for a long time abstained from the use of this mortar, and by some it has been supposed that the notice by the correspondent of the *Times* of the execution done by "Whistling Dick" has been the cause of his services being resumed. I know not what foundation there is for the supposition. The last few days the Russians have been directing a very heavy fire against a redoubt which is being made on Frenchman's Hill, in front of the camp of the Light Division. This position has been frequently spoken of as being the weakest part of the camp, now that that of the extreme right has been covered. There, indeed, assurance has been made doubly sure, both by entrenchments and armed redoubts in front, as well as by strong reinforcements from the French being placed in rear of the 2nd Division. When the redoubt in front of the Light Division is completed, and connected with the breastworks lately made across the left and middle ravines, that position will also be secured, but hitherto it has been open to attack. It can only have been from the supposition that there were protecting works which could not be seen that the Russians have not hitherto made some attempt in this direction, especially at the same time that the engagement of the 5th November was fought at Inkerman, as there was nothing in the nature of the ground to prevent them from bringing up a strong body of troops with artillery. They appear to have discovered the weakness of this part of the line now, and there have been frequent alarms in the Light Division camp in consequence. On the 15th a very strong force was observed approaching towards the middle ravine, for the purpose apparently of reconnoitring. The Light Division was quickly under arms, and some of the regiments advanced, but no result ensued beyond a slight skirmishing with some of the enemy's riflemen and our advanced pickets. There has been an inquiry into an alleged want of medical care and treatment—especially in respect to the number of orderlies employed—afforded to a large number of sick troops placed on board the *Avon*. The result has been a very severe reprimand in general orders by the commander of the forces directed against First-Class Staff Surgeon Dr. Lawson, who is ordered to be removed from the position he previously held of principal medical officer at Balaklava. Dr. Hall, the chief of the medical staff of the army, is also strongly animadverted upon in the same orders, and it is difficult to understand how he can continue to hold such a position with the reflections cast upon him of inattention to the duties of his office.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Dec. 22.—Rain has continued to prevail at last wrote, and the state of the roads has been consequently such as very much to impede the progress of operations. On the 20th and morning of 21st inst., however, we had a striking example of the variable nature of the climate of this portion of the Peninsula; for during the interval mentioned the atmosphere became so bright and clear, that its pervasive influence on mind, and the sun's influence during day as powerful, that it was difficult to realise

they had fallen, and in three or four instances h also been sacked and beaten over the head by t butt of the musket, to ensure destruction of life. Abo 37 are missing, no doubt having received wound which did not disable them from marching, a being carried away as prisoners. Among these lat is Lieut. J. Byron, of the 34th regiment. This offi was seen to fall by a sergeant, who states that he w wounded, but apparently not severely, and has s since been forthcoming. There can be little do but that he was taken away as a prisoner. T sentries were men of the 7th Royal Fusiliers.

I have not heard one circumstance advanced palliate this discreditable affair. The night was s ficiently clear and light for the Russians to have b seen advancing at a distance off of 150 or 200 yar But it is not difficult to account for and explain occurrence. There was a force of eight compani but there was no field officer in the work: they w under the command of a captain. They were tak from different regiments, and were not in the hab of acting together. The English officers on outp and picket duty are in too many instances notorious careless: wrapping themselves in their waterproo they will entrust the posting of sentries to the sergeants, who in turn will perhaps let the sentri relieve each other. Brigadiers should occasion visit the advanced works at uncertain times, as ascertain by personal inspection that a certain pr portion of men and officers are on the alert. It only to be expected that, worn and fatigued by th constant duties connected with the siege ope tions, the troops should be strongly tempted to yie to repose and to forget the responsibility connect with certain duties, unless watched from time time. And when neglect does occur, it is bett that it should be thoroughly investigated and expos rather than be glossed over and forgotten, for such course of action, though the duty be painful, as the occurrence of comparative small moment, may b the means of preventing some future calamity. Ther was no want of courage in the men—they wante direction and a leader. Had a habit of proper vigi lance been inculcated by superior officers, and a example set, this disaster would not have happened.

In the advanced works of Gravehill there appear to have been the same want of caution and alertnes as at Frenchman's Hill. A covering party of th 50th Regiment were protecting the work, having relieved a corresponding force from the 30th Regiment. The Russians advanced up the ravine, whic divides the French extreme right from our extreme left, and thus attacked the advanced work in flank The men of the 50th Regiment were taken by surprise, but succeeded, after an obstinate resistance, in driving the enemy back. They suffered however considerable loss—17 being killed and about 30 men wounded. Captain Frampton and Lieutenant Clarke are reported missing, and it is presumed were made prisoners.

The attack on the French works was very determined and obstinate, and the contest continued for nearly an hour after all fire of musketry had ceased in the British position. Viewed from this distance, and regarded as a mere picture, the scene of this struggle was very beautiful. The rapid sparkling jets of flame from the rifles of the opposing troops, apparently intermingled—for so close were they that no distinct lines of fire could be observed—the more brilliant illumination from time to time of small showers of hand-grenades thrown by the French; the arching lines of light overhead made by the shells as they crossed each other in the air; the distant glances of the sea beyond as every now and then it reflected the sheets of pale electric light flashing from behind a long line of black cloud, together with the misty indistinctness in which everything around was involved by the starlight, produced a combination real effect, and excited such a degree of interest in the spectator as made it difficult for him to turn away his gaze. Besides, to the rattle of musketry along the front, and the noisy discharge of the artillery against the English batteries, had succeeded almost a perfect stillness, and this change seemed in keeping with the clear sky above and the calm atmosphere. What wind there was had subsided; no thunder accompanied the lightning.

The French fire was too far distant to be heard, though plainly visible. There was a remarkable number of meteors, or shooting stars, passing through the air, more than I had ever observed before in so short a space of time since my sojourn in the Crimea. It was curious to notice their eccentric and irregular flight and the pale phosphoric emanations

sure—but the commanding officers naturally object to the remonstrances of the surgeons that they cannot part with their active men from the ranks. There is a manifest want in the British service of trained non-commissioned officers to act as dispensers of medicines and schooled hospital attendants, some for the regiments, and others available for general hospitals, and casual emergencies, such as this which has called forth these remarks, namely, the removal of a number of sick and wounded on board ship. These men should be ser've and alert, sufficiently well paid, and wholly the control and direction of the medical autho-s, who should be held responsible to the public their efficiency.

Dr. Lawson, the principal medical officer at Bala-'e severely reprimanded by Lord Raglan, is cessor the senior of his rank, having been appointed surgeon of the first class in the year 1846. He has the reputation of being an active and efficient officer. He may have known that no more medical officers were available at the time, and no more attendants for the sick to be procured; but, even at the risk of being considered to be "raising difficulties," if he knew that the number in the Avon was not sufficient for the proper care of the sick on board, he was in duty bound to make a report on the subject, and thus avert the responsibility from himself. Equally should the Inspector-General, Dr. Hall, if aware of the deficiency, have brought it to the notice of the Adjutant-General for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, that the responsibility might be shifted to the quarter where it alone would then rest in case the want were not supplied. Had a determined course of this nature been adopted by Dr. Hall before the army quitted Bulgaria, much of the absence of medical arrangements, which have been so strongly animadverted upon since the army has been in the Crimea, would have been either obviated, or the blame would have rested elsewhere than on the medical department. Such reports or remonstrances respecting the evils likely to accrue from the absence of the ambulances and medical stores may have been addressed by the head of the medical department to the military authorities, but the fact of their having been made has never publicly transpired; and in the mean time Dr. Hall must be content to bear the onus of the blame and dissatisfaction which the imperfect medical and surgical arrangements for the army in the Crimea have called forth from every quarter.

I regret to have to mention that, since I last wrote, General Sir George Brown has been compelled from the state of his wound to counter-order the arrangements being made for his reception in camp, and to relinquish for the present his intention of resuming the command of the Light Division. He has been suffering for some days past in general health, though not to such an extent as to occasion any anxiety in the minds of his friends respecting his speedy recovery. The wound in the arm, however, has not healed so favourably, in consequence of this illness, and it has been thought advisable by his medical attendants that he should leave the Crimea for change of scene and climate. It is understood that the General will proceed to Malta, and make a sojourn there until his health and wound are improved.

Among the list of casualties I ought not to omit to mention that the celebrated snow-white goat presented by her Majesty to the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers is dead. After weathering the campaign in Bulgaria, and marching proudly at the head of his regiment from Kalamita Bay to Sebastopol, he has at last fallen without wearing the Alma medal he had earned on the way. His stately demeanour, and reverend beard, made him a prominent feature in the appearances of the regiment as it moved along, and the gap left by his absence will force a recollection of the fine animal upon the memory of every one familiar with the gallant 23rd. He had been hitted and every care had been taken to protect him against the exposure and inclement weather, but all this attention was unavailing, and he died two days ago.

The following appointments and changes have occurred in the army:—Capt. Elrington, 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, to be a Capt. Maclean, 92nd Highlanders, as Brigade Major to the First Brigade of the Light Division; Brevet Lieut.-Col. Mayow, late Brigade Major to the Light Cavalry Brigade, is transferred to the Quartermaster-General's Department, and is appointed Assistant Quartermaster-General to the Cavalry Division; Captain Tomkinson, 8th Hussars, takes the place of Lieut.-Colonel Mayow as Major of Brigade to the Brigade of Light Cavalry; Captain the Hon. Gilbert Elliot, 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade, and Captain the Hon. A. M. Cathcart, 93rd Regiment, who both acted as aides-de-camp to the late Lieutenant-General Sir George Cathcart, and Captain W. Bellairs, 49th Regiment, are appointed to act as Deputy Assistants in the Adjutant and Quartermaster-General's Department, as their services may be required; Captain Mackenzie, 93rd Regiment, has gone to Balaklava, as Assistant Quartermaster-General; Major T. W. M'Mahon, late Assistant Quartermaster-General in the Division of Cavalry, proceeds to England on account of ill health. The following officers also have leave to proceed to England for the recovery of health at the recommendation of Medical Boards:—Captains G. Bingham Jennings, 19th Regiment; T. Yorke Dallas, 11th Hussars; J. B. Gould, 63rd Regiment; E. O. Salwey, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers; and Captain and Paymaster J. Telford, 17th Regiment; Paymaster Wheatley, 42nd Highlanders; First-class Staff-surgeon George Carr; Lieutenants Emilius Radcliffe, 68th Regiment; Robt. Mantell, the Buffs, but attached to the 17th Light Dragoons; J. O'Brien, 30th Regiment; J. Chandos Harcourt, 30th Regiment; and H. Mitford, 19th Regiment. Cornet R. Booth, 4th Light Dragoons. There is also a long list of officers to whom leave of absence has been granted at the recommendation of Medical Boards, to proceed during limited periods to Scutari for the benefit of health.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.]

BALAKLAVA, Dec. 28.

Although our united preparations for the last and decisive act of the bloody tragedy we are engaged in are now drawing to a close, yet we have to contend daily with three powers—the Russians, the weather, and disease. Not only do the enemy make sorties by land, but they have lately done sadly water, although on both elements they are invariably driven back with loss. Their last dodge was an attempt to burn the French fleet by means of a *brûlot*, or fire-ship, such as the Greeks made use of so effectively in their war of independence. However, Admiral Bruat was too clever for them, and captured the dangerous craft. The French fleet have nearly abandoned the creek known as the Bay of Kamiesch, and have removed most of their ships of war to the next one—the Bay of Kazatch. However, the greater part of the allied fleets have sailed to the south for nearly a week, leaving only nine line-of-battle ships here to defend the coast and blockade Sebastopol.

It is generally expected that, as soon as the weather permits, the siege operations will be recommenced with vigour. The French Generals Thiry and Niol have just finished a very elaborate examination of the works of the fortress from all the different elevated situations, and obtained the requisite knowledge of the weakest parts. It is said that Count Monthelhs has brought our commanders the most positive orders to hasten on the works and expedite the fall of Sebastopol before any possible negotiations between the cabinets can take place, and orders for a general suspension of hostilities be given. Nothing could be more unpopular, or give greater dissatisfaction to the troops, than such an order for an armistice arriving. Each of the two armies has concentrated its guns—ours 130, the French 380—in the most admirable manner, so as to bear upon a very small space and open a practicable breach. The storming, however, will not take place till a large number of mortar Congreve rockets, which arrived here on the 17th inst. by the Napoleon, shall have first cleared away some of the opposing columns.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The subjoined letters bring down our published correspondence to Jan. 2, 1855:

Dec. 31.—The construction and arming of the new batteries and advanced works has been proceeding as rapidly as the state of the roads and means of transport have permitted. Many of the large mortars are already in position. Nearly all the long 32-pounders from the Britannia and Trafalgar have been brought up from Balaklava to the two artillery parks. Large quantities of shells have been daily brought up by the troops, the French assisting us in the occupation. One of the large shells, suspended from a pole, is carried between the shoulders of two men, or, in instances of shells of less diameter, the smaller end of the pole is inserted into the opening for the fuze, and the iron missile is carried by a single man. The French are now said to have 74 guns and mortars in position ready to open fire, not one of which has yet discharged a single shot or shell.

The line of circumvallation which is being carried on from the French earthworks on the right flank, and continued around the sides of the mountain overlooking the Inkermann and the Tchernaya valley, will shortly be completed. Great progress has also been made in the new redoubt on Frenchman's-hill, and also in the entrenchments extending to the right from the advanced work. The enemy has been constantly firing at the working parties on Frenchman's-hill; but they have done scarcely any mischief, many of the shells having fallen so far beyond us on a line parallel with that of the picket house. There has also been a very constant discharge of shot and shell on the part of the enemy, chiefly from their ships' guns, against our new batteries in progress on the hills commanding the head of the ravine, and the valley of Inkermann. When the line of circumvallation before mentioned and other earthworks are finished—without including the new batteries constructed for carrying on the attack—the position of the allied army will be protected by an uninterrupted line of parapet and fosse, with redoubts and guns at the necessary intervals, from the heights above Balaklava to Khersonese or Prothesnia Bay. When the eye follows the circuit which this line has to make in winding around the brow of the great mountain plateau, following its sinuosities, and dipping across its ravines, it must be confessed that this is a wonderful achievement, and one that could only be accomplished by troops of such indefatigable energy as those who are now occupying these heights.

The occurrence which took place on the night of the 20th instant at the advanced works of Frenchman's Hill and Green Hill has led to several stringent orders to ensure the more complete protection of these important positions. No officer under the rank of a major or acting major is to command in the advanced work itself, and he is personally to satisfy himself from time to time that the sentries are well to the front and in their proper positions. A lieutenant-colonel is to command in the battery. At least half the men in the advanced work are to remain up, and with their arms in their hands, ready to fire or charge with the bayonet upon an advancing enemy. A number of fireballs have been placed at the disposal of the officer commanding in the battery for the purpose of illuminating the ground in front on the approach of a Russian force being suspected. These necessary missiles, however, are said to be very limited in number: they are frequently thrown out in front of the Russian works, and by scattering over a considerable space an intensely white light, they expose the numerical strength and direction of any troops which the sentries may hear approaching. No bonquette had been made in the advanced work at Frenchman's-hill—an oversight by no means facilitating its means of defence. This defect has been remedied, and other precautionary measures have been adopted which prudence prevents me from mentioning here, but which will tend materially to prevent any attack being again made upon the work with impunity.

It is ascertained that Captain Frampton, of the 30th Regiment, who was taken prisoner on the night above alluded to at Greenhill, was not wounded. He lost an arm in action in India, and a report had gained ground that he had received a severe wound in his remaining arm in the affair of the 20th inst. This is happily not true. He has proceeded to Simpheropol, where several other British officers are detained as prisoners of war. According to letters received from some of these, every attention is paid to them that can be reasonably expected, and they are allowed to go about on parole, and even make excursions into the country within certain limits.

The Russians made a sortie against the French advanced works on the night of the 20th with the intention of spiking the guns in the battery. They advanced stealthily, and managed to get into a portion of the covered way, but not without being observed by the French troops who were guarding the works, and who acted very coolly and deliberately on the occasion. The Russian force consisted of about eighty men and nine or ten officers. They had not been long within the entrenchments when it became evident that they had become bewildered as to the proper line of direction which was to conduct them to the battery in question. In the meantime, while they were seeking to extricate themselves from the difficulty in which they had entangled themselves, the French covering force had divided itself into two parties, each of which was quietly extending itself in such a manner as to surround them. This the latter succeeded in doing completely, so that the Russians at last, caught in a net as it were, had no alternative but to deliver themselves as prisoners without offering the least resistance. Not a shot was fired on the occasion.

A *reconnaissance en force* was made against the Russian camp on the opposite side of the Tchernaya plain by a large body of French troops on the 26th inst., under General Bosquet. Several battalions of Ottoman troops accompanied the expedition. Including all arms there were about 25,000 men. The Russian pickets having been driven in, it was found that a body of cavalry was drawn up to resist the advance of the French force, but a charge of the Chasseurs d'Afrique quickly caused them to disperse. The Russian troops abandoned their camp, and our allies did not give them time to take away much in their hurry. Contrary to what had been anticipated from the various reports made by deserters, it was discovered that there was no scarcity of provisions, or of the necessary protection against the inclemency of the season. A quantity of cattle, sheep, and poultry were seized; there was also a considerable amount of timber ready sawn into planks. The men were living in huts, which were well covered in and warm. The road leading northwards toward Simpheropol, and which winds along the foot of the mountain, was found to be in excellent condition.

Leaving a considerable force in reserve at the deserted Russian camp, General Bosquet with the remainder extended his reconnaissance, and is said to have made some valuable observations respecting the line of communication established between the Russian forces on the heights north of Sebastopol and that which he had just succeeded in expelling from the plain.

Three Polish deserters from the garrison of Sebastopol, who gave themselves up the same day, described a very different state of things to be existing within the town. They stated that there was a very considerable amount of sickness among the troops, and also a scarcity of provisions. They added, moreover, that such had been found to be the difficulty of procuring the necessary rations, that two divisions of the Russian army had been ordered away from their encampments above the Inkerman heights, and were gone into the interior of the country. At night, however, it was observed that the camp fires extended farther than usual, and were more bright and numerous: not improbably from the circumstance of the troops driven out of the plain by the French having joined the main body of the Russian army, and being compelled to bivouack on the heights instead of having the shelter of their huts.

The Russian encampment in the plain was placed a little northward of the spot where the Tchernaya river is crossed by the high road between Baktchi Serai and Balaklava. At this situation there are many facilities of communication with the Baidar district to the south, and the interior of the country to the eastward; and it is not unlikely that one of the important offices of the comparatively small force lately left at this station was to act as a receiving depôt for provisions and supplies for the great body of the army encamped on the mountains north of the vicinity of Sebastopol.

I can hardly trust myself to write on the subject of the late brevet promotions "for distinguished service." I hear loudly uttered around me expressions not merely of dissatisfaction, but that the selection made is, with very few exceptions, discreditable to the army. Here is a captain who, though he has been with an invalid depôt, and never in the Crimea at all, gets a majority, while another captain, the senior in the list of his regiment, who has been through the whole campaign, and though ill in health never absent from his post, is not mentioned at all. Here, there, and on all sides, are junior captains who have been enjoying all the ease, comforts, allowances, and comparative immunity from risk on staff employ, promoted to their majorities, while their seniors, who have been serving with their companies in the field, and exposed days and nights with their men in the trenches, are passed by without notice. Here, in one regiment, of which, the general of the division happens to be the colonel, both majors are made lieutenant-colonels, while in the very next regiment, though it would puzzle the most able advocate to discover any distinction of military merit, neither major receives any move from the brevet whatever. Can such anomalies be permitted to continue? Observe how the staff appointments are filled up. On the 20th of December Captain the Hon. A. M. Cathcart, 53rd Regiment, and Captain the Hon. Gilbert Elliot, 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade, were appointed to act as Deputy Assistants to the Quartermaster or Adjutant-General's department, as their services might be required. Both of these officers had been appointed by Lieutenant-General Sir George Cathcart as his aides-de-camp, and by the death of that gallant officer were left unprovided for as regards staff employ. No doubt it is commendable to do what can be done for the advantage of General Cathcart's friends; but does not the good of the public service require that something more should be required of officers who are placed in such responsible positions as those in the Quartermaster General's Department of the Army? Or is all the training and education gone through in the other European armies to fit officers for holding those appointments mere waste of time and labour? Surely the time is come to investigate this subject. At present, to hold an appointment on staff employ is commonly spoken of as a "piece of luck," and the possessor is congratulated as a "fortunate fellow" for he can not only work at his leisure by day, and sleep in a bed at night, but he is "certain of promotion." Not a word is uttered, or scarcely ever so, about the qualifications for the office; at most, perhaps, a "field sketch" is asked to be sent in as a specimen of the officer's abilities. It is not an unfrequent occurrence to meet French staff officers creeping along in advanced positions, taking advantage of a stone for shelter, and working with their sketch-books, and telescope, and compass: how often have the officers of our staff been met with thus diligently employed? The battalion officers have good reason for exclaiming against the uneven and partial distribution of the brevet promotions which have been lately published.

For the first time, this morning (Dec. 31st) the camp ground was white with snow, but it had not fallen deeply, and the westerly wind and sun have nearly melted away all trace of it. The fine frosty weather which invigorated the troops on Christmas-day, disappeared the day after, and the temperature has since been comparatively mild. Still the troops in front are suffering much from the defective supplies of rations and the continued exposure. A cargo of timber for the wooden houses has arrived, but there are no means of bringing it up to the camp. Thus, with numerous stores arriving at Balaklava, so great is the want of carriage that they are almost given away indiscriminately to all comers who may be able to convey them away. Some of the private bât horses have at last arrived from Varna, and an announcement has been made that the Commissariat are prepared to purchase any which may be for sale. Some vessels have also arrived with officers' baggage from the transports lying in the Bosphorus. The following four vessels, the Australia, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brandon, have been selected for the conveyance of sick to Scutari, and a permanent medical staff has been appointed to remain on board. This arrangement will obviate many of the deficiencies resulting from want of necessary conveniences and preparation which have hitherto been experienced in the transport of invalids from Balaklava.

One sergeant from each battalion of Guards, one from each regiment of cavalry and infantry, is to be promoted to an ensigncy or cornetcy. Lord Raglan has the power of nominating the non-commissioned officer selected to his new rank at once. The sergeants promoted from the regiments of the Guards are to be appointed to regiments of the line.

A change has been made in the arrangements of the post-office. The principal part of the establishment has been moved to the head-quarters of Lord Raglan, while a branch office will continue open at Balaklava. All the mail steamers—English as well as French—will come to Kamiesch Bay, whence the mail bags will be forwarded on pack-horses to head-quarters preparatory to sorting for the delivery. The letters and newspapers for the different regiments will be sent to the divisional head-quarters. A sergeant's party has been stationed for some time at Cherson (Kamiesch Bay), for forwarding, without delay, communications from the fleet, and by the French steamers to the British head-quarters. It is intended now that these men shall be reinforced by a detachment of the staff corps, who will be employed in these and other duties. It is trusted that this new arrangement will expedite the post-office business. The crowded state of the small harbour of Balaklava, not unfrequently the difficulty of ingress, and the limited accommodation of the office itself, have acted as serious impediments to the regular reception and delivery of the mails from England.

The east shore of Kamiesch Bay now presents a very animated and bustling scene. On approaching it from the barren steppes, on which the greater part of the French army is encamped, the extempore canvas town, and its busy wharves and streets, are quite hidden from view, as they lie deeply in the hollow in which the bay is formed, and less of the bay itself is seen than of the broader Dvernola bay beyond. But the thicket of masts, which forms a dark line to the eye, rising between the ridges of the hills, tells, long before a view of the harbour itself is gained, that this is the chief port for the supplies arriving for the French army. Dvernola, or Double, Bay, is much less accessible; while, once having gained the heights above Kamiesch Bay, which is readily done by a winding ravine having a very gentle slope, a ready communication can be established between the French head-quarters and all parts of the camp. The distance between the head-quarters of General Canrobert and the port of debarkation is between six and seven miles. An excellent macadamised road, with a trench on one side, and drains running beneath at intervals, has been nearly completed the whole way; and along this route may be seen constantly passing lines of mules carrying well-balanced packages of biscuit from Marseilles or Toulon, or other "vivres militaires," destined for the respective divisions of the army, and trains of waggons, "equipages militaires," also drawn by mules, bringing planks, sheets, forage, and every description of army stores in the same direction.

As soon as the brow of the hill overlooking Kamiesch Bay is arrived at, the spectator exchanges the comparative desert plateau, the monotony of which for the last two or three miles has only been broken by the presence of a ruined farm-house, or the remains of a vineyard, once flourishing in some little sheltered spot, for all the varied scene and business of an active seaport. Up to the very end of the harbour itself, as far as depth for anchorage can be obtained, almost from its mouth, is densely packed a long line of merchant vessels, ranged side by side in rows varying in depth according to the variations in shape and capacity of the bay, from eight or ten to five-and-twenty in number in each row. Stretched across the wider part of the bay near its connexion with the sea are several large line of battle ships, between which from time to time is sailing in or out some of the smaller merchant craft. Several large vessels are lying in Double Bay beyond, and from the point of Cape Chersonese, with its white light-houses along the coast towards Sebastopol, other war steamers and ships are moving along, or lying at anchor.

The new town is built, or rather encamped, toward the southern end of the harbour—the military stores, landing places, and offices, being nearer to the seaboard. The principal street, the "Rue de Commerce," consists of two lines of booths and stalls of every imaginary shape and contrivance for answering the double object of protecting the articles from the weather, and at the same time exposing samples with an inviting aspect to the gaze of the visitor. Masts, beams, rigging, and canvas from the ships, have been the chief materials used in the construction of these shops and dwelling places. Every house is numbered, and placards announce the name and place of occasion of its merchant proprietor, and the principal wares to be sold. Articles of clothing, preserved provisions, and groceries are the staple commodities. Wines and French liquors are to be obtained, but generally of an inferior description; the better sorts can only be purchased on board the vessels in the harbour. Among the shopkeepers are several of the French settlers; and the regimental "cantinières," in their trim military attire may be seen busily following their active avocations. Some of the shopkeepers are Maltese; there are a few Germans also. Some very large stores with stone walls, and others of considerable extent made of wood, are rapidly advancing toward completion. In a short time the Rue de Commerce will be put into the shade by its broader and more solid neighbour, which is stretching up the hill, and at right angles to it.

Great activity prevails at the military end of the port. Stores are being landed from the ships, and packed on the beach, or are being carried up by the troops into temporary storehouses and depots. Mules are coming down with empty pack-saddles, others are passing on their return to the camps laden with their respective burdens. Large piles of timber planking are stacked up, and there are heaps of grain and forage, casks and boxes of provisions. A number of Ottoman troops are encamped close by to assist in the labours of the port. These troops have made long lines of ground huts for themselves, which appear sufficiently snug and warm.

Although Kamiesch Bay has not the same advantages as a harbour as are presented by the sheltered port of Balaklava, its shores sheltering very gradually, and rising to an extensive plain, offer unlimited space for the landing of stores and erection of storehouses. None of the difficulty is therefore experienced which so much impedes the progress of disembarkation of stores and military material at Balaklava, where one narrow road for some distance forms the only available line of route for all the passengers and traffic passing in and out of that mountain locked inlet.

Jan. 3.—We had some very heavy wind, at times amounting to a gale, from the south-west and west last night. This morning heavy rain is falling. The accumulation of mud is nearly as great as it has ever been in the direction of Balaklava.

Not a moment is to be lost in forwarding reinforcements—ample reinforcements—when Lord RAGLAN writes thus. There are two passages in the admirable and graphic letter of our correspondent, who writes from the camp of the Light Division, that throw additional light on the Spartan brevity of Lord RAGLAN's observation. The first is the passage in which our correspondent places before us such a lively panoramic view of the valley of the Tchernaya, and the positions of the hostile armies. This vivid picture is calculated to realise to the imaginations of home readers the accumulation of Russian troops which threaten the right flank and rear of the Allies. The second passage referred to is that in which our correspondent adverts to the rapid approaches of winter in the Crimea, and the unprepared condition of our soldiers to meet its inclemency. Ample supplies of warm clothing and materials for erecting shelter for the troops are as urgently required as additions of men and horses. It is now beyond a doubt that there will be a winter campaign in the Crimea; and in that case it will be of vital consequence to have our soldiers as warmly housed and clothed as possible. Much may be done with regard to the housing by setting at once to work to have the soldiers hutted. Wooden or iron frame works, planked, and covered with turf or earth, if judiciously placed in situations sheltered from the most prevalent and the most inclement winds, would defy even the rigorous winter cold of the Euxine. As to the best sort of under-clothing, and coverings for hands, frame-sacks, and feet, there can be no mistake about them—only let the supplies be ample in quantity. It is also desirable that additional surgeons, assistant surgeons, and regimental apothecaries, should be despatched without loss of time. If well selected, they may be of immense use, not only in tending the sick and wounded, but in preventing disease, by constant attention to the dietetics, clothing, and lodging of the troops. Every expense incurred for preserving the health of our soldiers through a trying winter campaign will be true economy in the long run. Medical gentlemen who have taken part in any of our Arctic expeditions, regimental surgeons who have served in Canada, and surgeons who have made one or more voyages in whalers, are likely to possess high qualifications for service in an army engaged in a winter campaign. They know, experimentally, the importance of sternly checking all excess in drinking, and of seeing that the men are not only warmly clad, but placed in a condition to shift often enough to keep themselves dry and clean. In connexion with this last consideration, it might be worth while to try whether establishments analogous to those vapour baths, in which Russians so much delight, could not be introduced into the besieging army.

The official and non-official reports from the Crimea, to which we have been adverting, though they are not of a nature to warrant absolute confidence in our immediate success, are nevertheless more tranquillising than the vague rumours which heralded their approach entitled us to expect. The very detailed account given by our Light Division correspondent of the defensive works constructed from the rear of General DE LACY EVANS's Division to Balaklava, and of the manner in which they are manned, leaves little to apprehend from any renewed attacks of the Russians in that direction. Lord RAGLAN states that the French, who have before them "the town and real body of the place," have "constructed and opened batteries, the precision of the fire from which has most materially damaged the Russian works, although as yet they have not succeeded in silencing their guns." Notice is taken, in a French letter of the 1st instant from Constantinople, a translation of which we publish to-day, of a precaution taken by the Russians to shield their gunners from the deadly fire of the French riflemen, which shows how much they must have suffered from it. The injury done to the Russians in this way is far greater than the mere number of men killed would imply: by picking off their experienced gunners the efficiency of their artillery is materially diminished; they lose almost as much by it as if they had as many officers picked off in the same way. On the whole it seems pretty clear that victory in the Crimea will be dearly bought by the Allies, but that it will be obtained. But to obtain it there must be prompt and untiring energy on the part of the allied Governments.

State of the Army in the Crimea. Jan.y 1855. The same. Cont.d

LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE CRIMEA.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, JAN. 5.

Sir,—A crisis is coming. Unless the aid come quickly, which all experience of the wisdom and energy of our military rulers forbids us to expect, a second Moscow disaster is to be exhibited to the world. But this time British troops will make the snow their winding-sheet: the French will escape; and honestly, for their prudent care and energy, do they deserve the immunity. I have thawed my ink to write, with the hope still of saving life: for you have the electric telegraph, and can send messages, and, even at the expense of ruffling that "divine calm" which seems to deeply all its ministers, and all its officers save only one—the secretariat. Messages of the right sort sent quickly may be the means of saving from destruction many a fast sinking soldier. While you are struggling to bedizen for us tens and twenties of young recruits, fifties and hundreds of your old soldiers are dying here. They are dying from starvation. I say it who know it—who know what amount of warmth and what amount of food are absolutely necessary to preserve strength and life in men exposed to the fatigues and hardships your soldiers before Sebastopol are exposed to—that they have been left to die from starvation. For the last six weeks the rations issued have not been of a kind nor of a quantity to support strength or health. The clothing has not been sufficient to maintain the necessary vigour of the circulation. The means of cooking have not been such as to enable even the amount of food issued to be turned to a proper account; much of its nutritious qualities has been wasted. Your medical officers have pointed out the evils going on; they have written official remonstrances through the head of their own department, through general officers, but their communications have not been answered—with a reply. And the menace now soaking from dysentery and diarrhœa, from emaciation and debility, from diseases marking the advent of scurvy and dropsy, not to mention affections of the feet and fingers, that we cannot send them away from camp fast enough. The very last day the French took in our sick for us to Balaklava they could not supply us with transport at all adequate to the demand. And those men who are not on the sick list, who are "doing their duty," as it is called, if you could see their lean and hollow cheeks, their emaciated figures, it would make your heart ache to think that some of these men it was who were able a few months since to storm the heights of Alma. There are very few men who crossed the river Alma in the leading divisions of the British army will ever trouble the medallist for a record of that event. Those who were fortunately wounded and removed to Scutari—had as they then thought their fate—will perhaps live to wear their medal and bless the day they were deprived of the power of campaigning it further in the Crimea.

I know the supplies you have sent from England—the stores of shelter, food, and clothing for the strong, the stores of medicines and comforts for the weak—but they have been of little avail. You have had generals and brigadiers, military officials of many names and many grades—but you have not had men of energy, men of business habits, to second your efforts, to make proper use of your stores, to distribute your donations. They have been sent when they were not wanted; they have not been sent when they were wanted. Those which have arrived only a short distance from their destination, have been detained by the jealousy of formality between conflicting departments, till they have served only to block up the highway, and stop the very current of affairs. Perishable things have been kept till they were spoiled; the imperishable qualities of other stores have not saved them, for boat loads of munitions of war and winter clothing have been sunk in the very harbour of Balaklava by neglect. Some stores have been dealt out with a niggard parsimony, others have been distributed with reckless liberality, almost to all comers, and those who happened to be near, and the stronger, helped themselves to lions' shares. What avails it to us in camp to hear that at this moment the port of Balaklava is full of accumulation of clothing of all sorts, of wooden houses, of luxuries? All is inextricable confusion there. Some official sends to us a requisition for a large quantity of timber or clothing, ready signed and approved, with a message that we have only to send to Balaklava and get it. This precious document delivered, the staff man washes his hands of the business, and considers his duty done. As to seeing that the order is, or can be, carried out, that is not his affair. But we have not the means of bringing these things up. We cannot get up to camp the necessary amount of food, we cannot get clothing or fuel for warmth and cooking. Some weeks ago we could have done more, but the men are too worn and weak now to carry loads from Balaklava. They can hardly carry themselves. The men who are going into the trenches at night cannot be permitted to go on fatigue to Balaklava; there is no probability of their being able to get back again in time to go out on this duty. The men, therefore, available for the Balaklava fatigues are only those who have just come off duty from the trenches, or from picket. They have had no rest, for men on sentry or off must move about constantly to prevent their limbs from freezing, but that cannot be considered; better to keep in movement, though they may hardly be able to drag their legs to Balaklava and back, much less carry loads, than to lie lying down on the damp ground of their tent and sinking into torpor from which perhaps it will be impossible to rally them. By this forced labour we have contrived to get up a few Turkish cloaks and new great coats; but the greater part of the men are wearing threadbare coats, and cottons and trowsers, that will not burton over the additional under clothing which has been lately issued to them. The ammunition boots are villainous affairs. The leather is bad, the workmanship is bad, and the boot itself is wholly untired from its shape for the thaw, snows and this season of the year. When the plain was covered with adhesive viscid mud it separated the seams, and made openings between the layers of the soles. As the snow melts, the leather soaks up the water, and in the morning the boot is frozen, and so hard that the soldier cannot get his swollen and tender foot into it. The number of men going to hospital is greatly increased by affections of the feet. As to arrangements for washing clothes or for personal cleanliness, there are none. Parades for cleanliness, for uniformity of dress, have been given up long since. There are no means appointed of getting even the few blankets used in hospital washed. They cannot be washed in the snow, without the protection of a shed, without the means of procuring warm water. The fact is, as some commanding officers said lately, "It has come to this—the staff have given up all attempt at providing for us. We are left to ourselves; each regiment must do the best it can for itself—it is a case of self-preservation." We are truly in a state bordering on disorganisation. General orders are published and read, and there they end. Over and over again notice is given that from such and such a date the troops will receive so-and-so, but do not be deluded into the belief that the troops receive what is thus ordered. Some may—some receive double the allowance; others none—it is all accident. Fuel and light were ordered to be given to the men by the commissariat about the middle of November last. In this part of the camp no light at all—not an ounce—has been issued, and fuel only twice; and at this very date regimental paymasters cannot get from the commissariat money to issue to the companies. There is no money in the chest. A supply is expected, but of course it depends on the wind and waves when the supply will arrive. When a portion of the men's pay can be issued there are many little things that can be purchased, though at extravagant prices, which help to make up for other deficiencies. Either the commissariat have too much to do for the number of their officers, or in that, as in other departments, there is no providence, no method, or, as they say themselves, their arrangements are thwarted by the interference of others. Who are those who will come and bring order out of our military chaos? Who will organise our transport? Who will regulate the supply of food, of shelter, of clothing to the troops?

It has been my fortune to serve in a brigade, the brigadier of which, from the time the division landed at Varna to the date when he quitted it for a higher appointment, a period of six months, made only one inspection of the regiments composing it. That inspection was accomplished with all the pompous formality which admiring crowds so much approve of in St. James's-park, and summer visitors delight in witnessing on Southsea-common. Until lately, for nearly three months, the brigadier's marquée has been within howshot of his brigade; yet, though complaints have been frequently forwarded respecting the condition of the men of his regiments, complaints as to their messing, clothing, and state of health, he never once soiled his boots by crossing over to his regiments personally to ascertain if the complaints were well founded or otherwise. No—to learn if privates Dick and Harry got soup for dinner, to ascertain its quality, or even to see that they got their rations cooked at all; to enter the hospital tent, to console the sick or wounded, to receive himself that they received proper attention and the necessary medicine—was not within the province of his dignity. And, passing beyond the brigadier to a still higher power. I remember well on one occasion a commanding officer going to the general to whom I allude to solicit his interference that tea might be issued to the men of his regiment instead of the coffee berry, which was given out by the Commissariat in a green state, and was consequently difficult and troublesome to prepare for the soldiers' meals. The request was made in person; and it was at the same time explained that there was a quantity of tea in the Division Commissariat Store. "It—s the tea, and d—n the coffee, too—I wish there were no such things in the world—one's just as good as the other, sir," was the calm, considerate, and satisfactory reply. Yet such are the men whom England trusts with the administration of affairs in which are involved the comfort, and happiness, and health of her troops, almost without a check—such are some of those whom she delightech to honour. Courageous, undoubtedly. But so are mastiffs. Have not Privates Ap. Mac, and O', proved that they are brave? What British soldier wants courage? We want something more than bravery in generals and officers of the staff. Daring and courage are not every day called for—they must not be absent when they are required—but there are other qualities needed every hour in those whose authority contains the lives of hundreds. I say it after due deliberation, we have been brought to our present lamentable condition by the neglect and indifference of superior officers, by the utter ignorance of business, and absence of personal action, on the part of our staff officers. When an officer is placed on the staff, why should he do more than he is actually compelled to do in the ordinary routine of duty?—why even do that?—but is certain of promotion. Was there any distinction made in the "Cocked-hat Gazette," as it is now familiarly called, when spoken of in regiments? Was not every officer on the staff, if to be not a contradiction in terms, particularly recommended for promotion? Were not the services of every staff officer personal or departmental, were he an aide-de-camp, or a deputy-adjutant quartermaster-general, were not his services distinguished services? Was a captain—the last, perhaps, on the list of regimental captains—taken from his regiment and made aide-de-camp to his uncle, General This, or deputy-adjutant quartermaster-general in the division of his father's old friend, General That, and watch the result. The captains who have remained with their regiments, striving with their companies through the think of the fight, and passing night after night with their men amid the exposure and dangers of the trenches, are not even named, perhaps; but their junior, fortunate for himself, having got a staff appointment—receiving with that staff appointment superior pay and allowances—having ease and comfort by day, and every night in bed—suddenly jumps over their heads, and receives for his "distinguished services"—a majority. And this gain of a majority in advance of his less distinguished comrades is not merely a present advantage—it is the stepping-stone to other advantages throughout his whole military life. In our school days the boy who worked at his task was placed above the idlers; in our man days, we find a system the very reverse. Hold ground. If there were only a dress corps, per se, no one would object to the honours showered upon it; but it is too bad to reward them at the expense of the bee who have gathered the honey.

You must send some assistance to us. If left to the military authorities, to our staff, the aid we require will come too late. If you could see the condition we have been brought to by this two fatal attention to everything—if you could see the miserable, tattered, filthy, emaciated groups of men, which once formed the splendid regiments which left the shores of England in such vigorous health and spirits; if you could contrast the glorious army which advanced, wave after wave, burning with military ardour, and proud in their martial array, over the undulating steppes of the Crimea—which swept away the vaunted power opposed to them on the hills of Alma—if you could contrast that army with the crippled and sickly remnant here!—not crippled by the shot of the enemy, but by neglect and sickness—fitter for the most part to be inmates of a hospital than to be at the commencement of such an undertaking as a winter campaign in these snows and on these heights.

After the battle of Inkermann our staff ordered entrenchments to be made, and outworks, and batteries: had they been made before the battle some hundreds of lives might have been saved. They were made too late. When the mud was knee-deep, and the rain was descending day after day, our staff ordered roads to be made: had they been constructed when the weather was fine, and the fragments of stone, which seemed scattered for the very purpose of making and repairing roads, could be seen, the lives of many horses and mules would have been saved, and many a cart and waggon kept available for future use. But they were begun too late. Arrangements were made for the shoeing of the bât animals, a more liberal ration of forage ordered for them, when it was too late—when numbers had died, and the remainder were almost too reduced to be restored to a healthy condition. The staff thought of making depots of provisions, and commissariat stores, too late. It was discovered, too late, that sailing vessels could not get a safe anchorage off the rocky coast outside of Balaklava. But nine of these too late calamities were for want of warning. The sheepskin clothing, the wooden sheds, were ordered too late; and now they are due, if we are left to ourselves, and the arrangements of our staff, the men will get the use of them too late. The winter clothes will be issued in the spring—the wooden huts erected when none are left to inhabit them.

M. M.

Sanitary Matters in the Crimea.

Turning from questions of purely military administration, it is necessary to direct attention to sanitary considerations connected with our army in the Crimea. A special correspondent, in the camp of the Light Division before Sebastopol, whose letter we publish to-day, remarks that, if the army is to remain long in its present position, great danger will arise from the number of men and horses buried very superficially, or left unburied, immediately contiguous to the encampment. At the beginning of the present month our correspondent counted no less than 170 horses left unburied since the 5th of November, close to the camp of the Light Division. Numberless carcases of horses are scattered everywhere between the camp and Balaklava, unconsumed, or loosely sprinkled over with earth. The Russian dead in the neighborhood of the Ottoman troops are scarcely hidden from the eye. The offal of slaughtered cattle cumbers the soil every. where throughout the camp. Frost and snow have hitherto rendered these appalling elements of mortality comparatively innocious; but when the thaw sets in, and the days grow warmer, what will be the condition of the camp? Unless prompt precautions are taken to obviate the danger, the camp will soon be converted into one foul dung-heap for the generation of pestilence. Sad experience has shown that the redress of the evil cannot safely be left to the authorities on the spot. The hand-scavenger, to be sent out from the Board of Health, cannot be despatched too soon.

Crimean Rations. Jan.y 1855. Same. Contd

RATIONS IN THE CRIMEA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

CAMP ABOVE BALAKLAVA, JAN. 2.

SIR,—Perhaps no passage in the various newspapers which reached us by the last mail struck us with more surprise than the account given by the Special Correspondent of the *Times* respecting the soldiers' rations. It is quite evident that if he does not live on the "fat of the sea," which he describes those to be living on who have been complaining of the quality of the soldiers' rations, he is living in much better quarters than in the camp before Sebastopol. Should he deign to pay us a visit he will not find much of the dyspepsy of excess in our camp. Here is the passage alluded to—it appears in the *Times* of November the 14th:

As for myself, I can safely assert, from a good deal of actual knowledge on the subject, that a man can live on the rations of a private soldier day after day, and can, with the blessing of Heaven, maintain good condition and strong health upon them alone. Let any one who likes it get up at six o'clock every morning—earlier, if need be—take his breakfast of smoked and tried biscuit, tea, and a slice of beef or rasher of ration pork; let him after some hours of honest exercise eat his dinner, composed of a good soup of ration beef and rice, or of boiled pork and rice; then let him wash it down with his gill of ration rum, follow the meal (should he be a smoker) by a sound pipe of ration tobacco, eat a bit of ration biscuit, and drink a cup of ration tea or coffee: he goes to bed at dark, and I am quite certain he will feel at the end of a week that he has lived, if not "as wisely and not well," at least cleanly and wholesomely as a gentleman should, and that he has consumed enough of sound tissue food to develop his strength and fit him for any exertion of which his bodily frame may be capable.

If the men had received such rations as "the Special Correspondent" appears to have had "actual knowledge" of, I have no doubt they would have been—many of them, at any rate—as stout and as well as I hope he continues to be. If they had not only had them, but had the same means of cooking and preparing them, I firmly believe that many of the emaciated wretches who are now stalking about the hospital tents, or who have been removed to Scutari, would have been scout and well; and many, many others now rotting in the ravines of this plateau would have been, humanly speaking, alive, and active soldiers. I am in one of the divisions engaged in the siege operations—not at headquarters, nor at Balaklava, where the supplies may be very different. Our Special Correspondent writes on Nov. 22, and describes the day's ration living. There is soaked and fried biscuit—no doubt soaked and fried in butter—for breakfast, with tea, and a slice of beef or rasher of ration pork; really quite tempting. But where can the soldier who has just come in from picket or the trenches, and who has to go and fetch his water and his firewood, get the means of treating his fast so luxuriously? No tea was served out to this division in the whole month of November, nor was there any issued in December; not grocery but coffee, and that in a green state. As to the rasher of pork or slice of beef, the soldier ate his allowance (much curtailed of late, some days to one third and one fourth of a pound of salt pork) yesterday at dinner, and must wait till the time for the next issue before he gets any more. Then after some "honest exercise"—a march into Balaklava and back, on fatigue duty perhaps—comes dinner. "Our Correspondent" has managed to get a "good soup of ration beef and rice, or of pork and rice;" but if he had had a canteen to cook his soup in, no vegetables or condiment to put into it, no fire but what could be made on the ground with some wet brushwood, no rice (it was stopped by general order on the 15th of November), or any substitute for it—though he had been Soyer himself, it would have puzzled him to have made cook soup as the adjective "good" would have been justly applicable to. Now follows a sound pipe of "ration tobacco." There must have been a little private interest here with the Commissary General, at any rate, to such thing as ration tobacco has been issued in the Light Division, though there are some smokers in it, and *Punch* would have suggested it might be more useful to that division than to any other. The ration tea has already been disposed of, and the only comment on the "coffee-ere he goes to bed at night" I would make is, that I hope our special correspondent's bed was, for his own sake, not quite so damp or bare as our soldiers'—as unlike it in all respects, indeed, as his meals appear to have been. Otherwise I do not think he would have found even one week's ration life as animating and strength-developing as, in his glowing description, the influence it exerted upon himself appears to have been.

The ration rum, biscuit, and salt pork, have been good in quality, but diversity there was a difficulty from bad weather and bad roads the supply failed. We had been living "from hand to mouth." Not even a division store of two days' rations was provided against an emergency. The hit animals, which had been half-starved, neglected—not even their shoeing attended to—sank soon after the country arabas failed, and the men had to go and fetch their rations themselves. Many men died under this extra exertion. It has been discontinued; but the men still have to go in for nearly all the stores of clothing which are brought to the front. Some hit animals have arrived from Varna and elsewhere, but the rations are still very irregular and diminished in quantity. The rations of rum and meat have been much curtailed. There has been scarcely any fresh meat—about 4lbs. per man during the whole month of December. Coffee is still issued in a green state. By general order of the 27th of December, the ration of rice was ordered to be commenced again, and it has been issued since. Rations of light and fuel were ordered to be issued about three weeks ago—I forget the date. No light has ever been issued up to this day, and the men have only got fuel once.

Considering the fatigues and exposure the men are of necessity subjected to, I have no hesitation in saying that neither the quantity nor the quality of the men's rations is sufficient to preserve health, much less strength. There is too small a quantity of fresh meat, there are no vegetables, and too small an amount of food altogether. Some time since it was announced by general orders that there was a vessel laden with potatoes at Balaklava, from which regiments could draw supplies. On sending down, the potatoes were found to be covered over by other stores, and, moreover, the ship was under immediate orders to leave, so that the vegetables could not be obtained. More attention has been paid to the means of cooking of late, and a fresh supply of camp kettles has been issued to regiments. But much, even in this matter, still remains to be done.

The subject of rations is not one for poetical description; it is very little more than a matter of pounds and ounces. The accuracy of no statement can be so easily examined into, as one respecting the kinds and quantity of food issued to the men. A simple return from the quartermasters of regiments of the daily issue will at once show what the men have received. It must not be sent in by a commissary general, nor proceed from any favoured individual. Let the quartermaster of each regiment send in a return of what he has been able to issue to the men of his regiments, and the regiments are not so numerous that these returns will be very voluminous. It must be, if the truth is desired to be arrived at, obtained from each division, and each regiment of the division: for during the last six weeks or upwards our commissariat has assumed very much the appearance and condition of a general "scramble," and those who have been the strongest, or whose good luck and some happy contingencies have given them the most means of transport so that they could bring supplies out for themselves from Balaklava, have, as in other scrambles, fared the best, while the weaker party has "gone to the wall."

A REGIMENTAL OFFICER.

EXTRACT OF A PRIVATE LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF THE LIGHT DIVISION.

January 10, 1855.

I waited a day yesterday in going to Balaklava. I will give you the particulars; it will show you how matters are managed here. We got an order that two vessels, the Niagara and Colombo, having arrived from Varna with horses—one vessel also having 90 horses, the other 37, same unknown—officers expecting horses were to go to Balaklava and discover if there were among the number. Two of my horses left at Varna, when we sailed for the Crimea, to this day have never arrived, nor have I ever heard of them, except by casual communication on one occasion. Thinking, therefore, mine might be among those arrived by the Colombo and Niagara, in obedience to this order I went down to ascertain if they were. It seemed to me that it would not have been a very difficult matter for our staff authorities to have obtained a nominal roll of the horses who had been brought by the Colombo and Niagara—say more, that it would not have been a very difficult matter, when the horses were shipped at Varna, to have had a list made out, showing whose horses they were, and to what division of the army their owners belonged. But I presume only men of business will condescend to take the trouble of providing a bill of lading or invoice of a cargo.

The day had become milder, and when I started it was thawing. I will not attempt to describe the state of the road to Balaklava, nor the condition of the streets and wharf of Balaklava itself. No pen could realise it to your imagination. Heap together mud, filth of every kind—crowds jostling against each other, jammed-up lines, everyone in each other's way—no regulation, no order—chaotic, ragged, miserable, tail-worn English soldiers "on fatigue"—Ottomans coming in to discharge, and, being carried out—imagine a very Pandemonium of seething misrule and confusion—all the evidences of want in the faces and clothing of the troops—all the evidences of abundance in the ships and on the beach—and you may form a remote conception of what Balaklava really is. I struggled among this crowd, went up and down the wharf, trying to find the positions of the Colombo and Niagara, and to get a boat to get to them. I asked for some person in authority who could procure me information on either point, but could find none. At last I discovered where the Colombo was lying, and after two hours, as a matter of private favour, I managed to get a boat. Judge my surprise to learn, on reaching the vessel, that the horses had been landed two days ago. They did not know whose they were, or where they had gone to; so I went back again. I saw a magpie near the spot where I landed, and some commissariat officers within. I thought they might give me some information. "Well, they didn't know—they believed horses had been landed—perhaps thought they had been sent to their regiments, but perhaps they were at the horse depôt, which was somewhere at the other end of the town." So I went after the horse depôt. After some time I came to a number of horses standing together, with pedestrians on their backs, and a number of dirty-looking rascals, in every kind of colour and costume, and some carpassing by told me that "he thought that must be the horse depôt." No one, however, could speak English among those who seemed particularly interested in these animals, and finding none of mine among the number, I at last gave up the search. I afterwards learned that none of the horses or human who had been sent by the Colombo and Niagara belonged to the Light Division at all—a fact which I really avoid appear might have been discovered both at Varna and Balaklava, without any trouble to the authorities, and without the necessity of my undertaking such a voyage, by mud and snow, to establish it for my own information. The horses, according to the report of the sailors in the Colombo, must have been landed in the morning of the same day on which I got the order to go and look after our expected animals.

There seemed to be plenty of the wooden houses and other stores at Balaklava, but there is no probability of their reaching us in camp. An officer of the Australian Sorrow Company told me they had offered to get them up by the men of their transports, who were doing very little while they were in harbour, but that the offer had been refused. He said the proposal had been made to Captain Christie, the transport agent.

Lord Raglan was in Balaklava on the 8th inst., the day before I was there. He had not been there before for nearly three months. It was then a comparatively clear day, as the thaw had not come, to mix snow and mud together; but even Lord Raglan, I should think, must have found it a little worse than he had expected.

A well merited, though severe, punishment was inflicted on the 10th instant, upon an English soldier who was attempting to desert to the enemy,* and it is the more worthy of remark as the punishment was administered voluntarily, on the spur of the moment, by one of the deserter's own countrymen. The man who exhibited such patriotic feeling and readiness of purpose deserves a reward; and one of a more permanent character, and more likely to extend its influence, than a mere pecuniary gratuity. The fact occurred soon after noon, in broad daylight. A working party of the 19th Regiment and others had been employed in front of Gordon's battery, to the right of the advanced work, and near the position of the Lancaster gun. They were about to return to the advanced work, and had supplied arms, when some one observed the absence of a man of the party, by name of Smith. Search was made for him, but he was not found. It was then remembered that he had when they began to work not placed his musket with the other arms, but had supported it against a portion of the parapet which was concealed from view by a projecting angle. Two men at once made their way to this spot, and on reaching it found the firelock still there, but the man Smith considerably in advance, stooping, but hurrying toward the Russian position. One of the two men immediately gave the alarm, and calling out, "Down with him, the rascal is going over to the enemy," capped his piece, and fired. He, however, missed him. The deserter no sooner perceived that he was detected and marked, than, springing up, he ran at full speed, shaking in his left hand a white rag, and doubling up his right to show that he was unarmed. But he was doomed not to effect his object. He had reached about half distance between the English line, and the Russian outposts, when one of his own comrades took a more deliberate aim and lodged a ball in his back. The deserter fell at once, and though he was observed afterwards to make several efforts, he was quite unable to move from his position. From the manner in which he fell, there is little doubt that the wound was mortal. Subsequently, toward dusk, a sergeant and eight or ten men were sent to bring him in, but the object was observed, and some Cossacks advanced. An interchange of shots took place; and, though none of the sergeant's party were hurt, it was considered prudent to retire back to the work. The man who fired and struck the deserter was a young soldier named Edward Phillips, and belonged to the same company of the regiment. Smith appears to have been a troublesome character, though a shrewd and intelligent fellow. He had been a non-commissioned officer, but reduced for misconduct to the ranks. Just about the same time that this man attempted to get away, a soldier of the 93rd Highlanders succeeded in reaching the enemy's sentries *entrée*, and if was doubtful whether there was not some concerted scheme between the two. The conduct of Private Phillips on the occasion does not to be overlooked.

* Lest the Duke of Newcastle should take fright, and complain of our informing the Czar that some English soldiers have deserted, we beg to inform him that the Czar knows it already, and that the fact is stated in the number of the *Journal de St. Petersbourg*, which we received yesterday.

State of the Army in the Crimea.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR,—As I see the reports of your special correspondent on the lamentable condition of the British portion of the allied army published in various quarters, I add my voice to confirm their accuracy. I wish it were in my power to contradict one of his assertions in this respect. Your own comments on his reports, though painted in strong colours, fall far short of the reality. It has been my fate to see degradation more degraded than I had previously conceived it possible for any British soldier to be reduced to—degradation the depth of which no one could believe who did not witness it personally, as I have done; and it is my firm conviction that this is the result of want of foresight, inconsistence, and neglect, on the part of those whose duty it was, by the exercise of opposite qualities, to have prevented the occurrence of such painful scenes. Had our Head exercised due supervision over the chiefs of the respective departments, I presume the salutary influence would have descended to all subordinate officers, and the troops would have ultimately experienced the benefit. It is satisfactory, however, to be able to assure you that in spite of all that has occurred the spirit of our men has not been broken, and the comparatively small number who now remain able to march and carry a Minié will not fail to do their duty, whether in assault or in the field, as soon as the opportunity is offered.

Our exhaustion appear to me to have been attributable not so much to the faulty character of our military system as to the neglect of all system. The reverberation of your remarks has already produced a beneficial effect in the Crimea. This is made manifest by an unusual activity in all directions, and I anticipate still further good from them. The Commander-in-Chief has passed through our camp twice lately. Until those visits, although I have been with the army in the East ever since its landing, and not once absent from my Regiment, I should certainly have not known the personal appearance of Lord Raglan, though I would not help being very familiar with that of General Canrobert, commanding the French forces in alliance with us.

AN OFFICER OF THE LIGHT DIVISION.

Light Division Camp, above Sebastopol, Jan. 22.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, JAN. 22.

The weather during the last three days has continued remarkably mild, and the snow is fast disappearing from the surface of the ground. Should the thaw continue for two or three more days, the steppe will have completely resumed its former covering of deep adhesive mud.

The change of temperature has been attended with the advantage of arresting the number of cases of frost-bite, which were becoming very serious. The frost had attacked chiefly the men's feet, and many of the soldiers have been issued in consequence. Although there has been no want of ammunition boots, the numbers sent out to the various regiments having greatly exceeded their present reduced strength, yet they were of such bad quality, both as regards the leather itself and the workmanship, that they soon ceased to afford protection to the wearer. The melted snow readily found its way to the feet, in spite of greasing and all attempts to make the boots impervious to its passage. There has been no time, nor indeed means, of drying the saturated socks, or restoring warmth to the chilled feet; for, from picket or trenches, the soldier has had to journey to Balaklava and back, on fatigue, his planks, clothing, or rations, and on returning to his tent, if he were not again for duty, he has been glad to escape from his weariness and discomfort in sleep. The consequently swollen and inflamed feet have sent many for relief to the camp hospitals, and in too frequent instances the debilitated condition of the patients, and the necessary absence in the hospital tents of many requisites, have led to the loss of toes, or even larger portions of the feet. A speedy removal from the camp would appear to be the only cure for these sufferers. A few, but very few, of the long boots have arrived. They are most desirable on every account, for, from their capacious size and impervious nature, they are well calculated to prevent the evils I have mentioned, and, from the reports of the medical officers, would in all probability prevent much of the diarrhœa and other illness which has been prevailing. There has been great difficulty in obtaining the means of conveying the sick from camp, the French scales, upon whose assistance we have been almost wholly depending of late, having been required by our allies themselves, for the transport of their rations and other matters.

The number of effective men among the British troops has become so materially reduced, that for some time past it had become manifestly impossible for this diminished force properly to defend the long line of position from the heights above Inkermann to the left of Greenhill. Had the Russians become aware of the small force we have been able to spare for the protection of some of the points of this line, they would very probably have varied the direction of some of their recent sorties. But now the French have come to our aid, and from their numbers they are well able to do so. On the 21st inst. a certain proportion of the rockets furnished by the 2nd British Division, and those furnished by the 4th brigade of the light division, were relieved by French troops. The first and second brigades of the light division will now together furnish men for the pickets, formerly furnished by the second brigade alone. Rumour says that the French will take wholly the extreme right, and that the Guards' brigade of the first division and the second division will move from the heights above the Inkermann valley, and be encamped near the light division, so as to assist in the defence of Frenchman's hill or Gordon's battery, and neighbouring ravines. In other quarters, the Greenhill batteries and advanced works were mentioned as likely to be given up to the French troops.

A few of the huts are being erected in camp. They have been brought up from Balaklava wholly by the exertions of individual regiments. In some instances the commanding officer has sent in the men in large bodies, as large as could be spared from their duties in the trenches, and each man has returned with one or more planks, his horses assisting in bringing up the heavier parts. There are 33 horse-loads to each hut. Many of the regiments have not yet been able to get up a hut, the men having been employed in bringing up clothing, blankets, or rations; and from the Third Division, on the extreme left of the camp before Sebastopol, to the Second Division, on the extreme right, no regiment, as yet, has got more than two huts in course of construction. Very little of the warm outer clothing has yet been issued; but the mild weather which has prevailed the last few days has rendered this of less importance. Buffalo robes have been given out for use in the tents. It is a matter of regret that the huts have not been sooner erected, if only for the preservation of these and other valuable articles issued to the men. It is almost impossible, amidst the mud and damp of the tent ground, to take such care of these things as their value demands. On the partial wooden flooring of the huts their protection could be easily arranged. The huts for the officers have not yet arrived, nor has the warm clothing intended for the officers. Officers, however, have been permitted, by application at the Quartermaster General's office, to obtain articles of the soldiers' warm clothing instead of those expected for themselves, when desirous of doing so. The commissariat officers have not yet been able to obtain a sufficient number of transport animals to enable them to supply the regiments in camp with complete rations of food or rum, nor have they yet been able to comply with the general order desiring them to furnish the troops with rations of charcoal or other fuel and light. The troops quartered near Balaklava have been so far fortunate that they have been able, by their nearness to the port, to avail themselves of the abundant supplies in store there.

The representations which have been so forcibly urged at home respecting the dire confusion prevailing at Balaklava appear likely to lead to some more orderly system, both as regards the arrangements of the shipping in the port itself, and the means of traffic and movement in the narrow streets and crowded wharves of the town, and the roads approaching to them. Nearly all the shops are to be closed, and the Maltese, and Greeks, and others who have been making small fortunes by their exorbitant charges for their wares, are to be turned out. They are to continue their shopkeeping, if they choose, at the neighbouring village of Kadikoi. This will leave the thoroughfares in the town more open, will clear spaces for the more ready transaction of business, and prevent much of the crowding which has previously interrupted the disembarkation and conveyance of stores. Two new piers are to be constructed, and various other improvements to be effected, which, if speedily carried into execution, will cause much of the inconvenience and suffering which have resulted from their neglect up to this time to be forgotten, and ranked only among the things "that were."

No event of importance has taken place with respect to the progress of the siege during the last three or four days. The firing, both of musketry and heavy guns, has been very constant and severe during the last two nights, chiefly in the direction of the French batteries on the left. A large number of shells and shot have also been discharged from the Russian shipping, and their works on the brow of White Cliff, and near the Inkermann West Light-house, against our new works on the right. Upwards of two-thirds of our stores of shot and shell for the new guns and mortars have also been brought up to camp. The new French works are completed, and their armament is at hand in the proper magazines.

The following officers proceed to England on account of ill-health:

Captain A. Marsh, 55th Regiment; Lieut.-Colonel H. Dunbarny, C.B., 55th Regiment; the Rev. E. Parker, chaplain to the First Division; Brevet Major A. Cheyenne, 42nd Highlanders; Captains T. Rose, 20th Regiment, and C. Bowker, 1st Royal Regiment; Lieutenants F. Gosling, 49th Regiment, and G. Nevill, 7th Royal Fusiliers. Captain A. Kinloch, Grenadier Guards, has leave of absence to England, to retire from the service. Captain E. Legh, 97th Regiment, has been appointed A.D.C. to Colonel Lockyer, K.H., who now commands the 2nd Brigade of the Second Division. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Harding, 22nd Regiment, has been appointed to succeed Lieutenant-Colonel Haines as commandant of Balaklava. Captain Lowry, 47th Regiment, appointed on the staff to act either as a Deputy Assistant Adjutant or Quartermaster General, according to circumstances, is attached to head-quarters.

THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

CAMP, LIGHT DIVISION, FEB. 2.

We have been favoured with a continuance of genial and fine weather since I last wrote. The nights have generally been frosty, but the sun and mild temperature on the succeeding days have speedily thawed the frozen surface of the ground. This favourable condition of climate has been accompanied with a corresponding improvement in the health and spirits of the men. What is chiefly required at the moment is an opportunity of removing the sick, who have accumulated in large numbers in the field hospitals. The hospital marquees and tents, and huts, of which nearly every regiment now possesses one completed and occupied, are full of soldiers labouring under scorbutic and dysenteric diseases, and sore feet from frost bites. Many men are losing toes or portions of the feet. All these cases urgently require removal for the sake of better treatment than can be obtained in the camp, but there is a great want of arrangement about establishments, whether on shore or shipboard, to receive the sick at Balaklava; and there is great difficulty in obtaining ambulance mules or waggons to convey them there.

The number of huts in course of erection is gradually on the increase. The Quartermaster-General's Department has not, however, yet been able to assist in transporting them to the camp. The huts are of two kinds—the Portsmouth and Gloucester huts. I don't know which may be the more perfect in construction as an engineering work and in stability, but from the peculiar circumstances under which they are brought up to camp, in case of high wind or severely cold weather the Gloucester would have many advantages over the Portsmouth hut. The chief difference seems to be owing to the circumstance that, in the former, all the boards—roof, sides, and sleeping boards—are placed vertically, while in the Portsmouth hut they have a horizontal direction. A greater number of planks is of course required to construct a hut with the planking placed vertically, but they are necessarily much shorter, and are therefore more portable. In carrying up to camp the long horizontal planking, which is feather-edged and inconvenient for conveyance in consequence of the length, the men become tired, and may often be seen dragging it along the ground. The boards are thus equally liable to be dragged when carried by the side of a horse or mule. They then frequently split, and through the crevice thus made snow and wind find their way. The horizontal planks are made to overlap each other, but they cannot be joined so closely but some crevice will remain. On the contrary, in the Gloucester huts, the vertical boards are placed edge to edge, and the line of jointing is covered over securely by battens. No wind can then penetrate. The shortness of the planks not only renders them more easily carried by men or horses, but also, together with their equal thickness throughout, makes them less liable to straining or other injury. The double-sliding window of the Gloucester hut is also found to answer better than the window in the other hut, which turns on a pivot. The prevailing belief in camp is, from the difficulty and length of time in bringing the huts up, that very few, beyond what will be required for the hospitals, will be erected. The want of transport has evidently put them out of favour with the authorities, by whom they are reported to be cold, and as not having stability in themselves to withstand a high wind. By a little arrangement, such as hashing up the earth against their sides, from the general connexion of the parts, I have no doubt that nothing short of a hurricane could remove them. They are at least as secure as the wooden houses inhabited by the colonial population in the United States and the Antilles, and afford means of dryness, warmth, cleanliness, and protection against severe inclemency or vicissitudes of weather, which cannot be obtained in tents. Many of the inconveniences before mentioned of the Portsmouth huts can be counteracted by the exercise of a little ingenuity and exertion, with the aid of paste, paper, and canvas. Would that the troops had had the advantage of their use early in December instead of February! None of the huts appropriated to the officers have yet arrived.

Should the huts become fixed, and the regiments remain long in their present position, a more serious consideration will arise from the great number of horses and men who have been buried in the immediate neighbourhood of the encampment, and, generally speaking, very superficially. In the ravine leading from the site of the Second Division down to the Inkermann Valley, between the first picket and the quarries near the aqueduct, I counted upwards of 170 horses lying unburied, which were removed there after the battle of the 5th of November; and these have never since been covered by earth. The Russian dead, who were buried in this ravine and neighbourhood by the Ottoman troops, were buried very hastily, and scarcely hid from exposure. The carcases of horses scattered in all directions between the camp and Balaklava, or very loosely sprinkled over by earth, are beyond counting. The graves along some of the ravines before [Sebastopol] present themselves in fearful frequency. Add to these the offal of slaughtered cattle, and refuse of all kinds, and the getters of warm weather, may be looked forward to with some anxiety on account of the pollution of the atmosphere which may accompany it. It is fortunate that so free a circulation of air prevails on these heights. Since the snow fell there have been some large vultures hovering over the camp, and flights of crows and a species of daw have appeared; but scavenger birds of all kinds appear to be very scarce in this region. On walking through the British part of the camp, it is impossible not to have the attention called to the immense number of articles of uniform and debris of dress and appointments which lie scattered about. Shoes, many apparently broken but not much worn, shakos, portions of very faded dull red cuirass, old socks, scraps of cloth of every colour, portions of belts and straps, meet the eye in all directions. One may notice the difference in the internal economy of various regiments by the distribution of these articles. In some they are to be seen gathered in heaps or in pits set apart for the purpose; in others lying in all directions over the streets of the regimental encampment. In some few instances no such unsightly appendages were visible at all, owing, as I learned on inquiry, to the rule being enforced of burying at certain intervals all rubbish which might accumulate in the neighbourhood of the tents. Among other things cast away and lying on the ground, it would surprise a stranger to perceive such useful articles as bags and sacks—which, from the broad arrow, have evidently belonged to the commissariat or other public departments; and there is no inconsiderable number of the flannel vests and drawers lately sent from England, and issued to the troops. I formed over and examined some, and beyond being soiled, could find no reason for their being thus rejected by their owners. A little conversation soon cleared up the mystery. From a combination of circumstances, these flannels thus thrown away have become so infested with vermin, that the soldiers who were wearing them, not having the means or the energy otherwise to escape from the living nuisance, have solved the difficulty by casting them aside, flannel and all together. Similar examination exhibited the remains of myriads of these insects, which from being nearly of the same colour as the woollen fabric, were not observable until the attention was called to their existence. From the delay and difficulty in bringing up the warm clothing, one set of woollens only could for a long time be issued to each soldier—he had, therefore, no change.

Lying on the bare ground, and the absence of attention to personal ablution—the time being wholly occupied in duty in the trenches or fatigue—and no means for the purpose being provided—have led to the rapid engendering and increase of the evil. No means of washing even the linen shirts have been provided, and it may be readily imagined what must be the state of those articles after being in use for several months with nothing between them and the ordinary mire on the surface of the earth; and even if the soldier contrived to find time to wash his woollen underclothing in the small stream which runs along the neighbouring ravine, on account of frost or rain which have prevailed, he has not had the means of drying them. He has, therefore, worn them as long as he could. Some more careful soldiers, by frequent rubbing and attention, have contrived to keep their woollen clothing tolerably free from this pest; but, judging from report, none have been enabled to keep themselves wholly free from it. The French and Ottoman soldiers, both of whom are remarkably clean in their personal attire, do not appear to wear woollen underclothing, but cotton. They may be seen along the

side of every stream, especially the Zouaves, at all hours, scrubbing and rubbing away, with their arms up to the elbows in suds. They take down their washing utensils, light a fire on the spot, boil water, and set to work in an artistic manner, and really do not only clean, but launder, the articles on which they devote their soap and exertions. It was at one time proposed to set apart one or two houses in Balaklava for the purpose of washing and drying such things as could not be properly done by the soldiers in camp, and that the soldiers' wives, many of whom have been brought of late from Varna and elsewhere in the Crimea, should be employed in this useful occupation. But the suggestion has never been carried into effect. The officers, since the arrival of their baggage, and having had many other opportunities of obtaining sufficient changes of clothing, have not been subjected to the inconveniences the soldiers have had to endure in respect to cleanliness.

The opening of the fire from the new batteries, looked for from day to day, has not yet commenced, nor is it probable that it will take place for another week. Since the French troops, however, have taken the position on the extreme right, many guns have been already mounted. Our old 9-pdr battery, which was so effective against the Round Tower at the commencement of the bombardment, but from which the Lancaster and other guns have been long since removed, is fast changing its aspect. It had been permitted to fall completely into decay, and was merely used for the protection of a picket. It is now being converted into a strong redoubt, and our allies have given it the name of "La Victoria." Should the siege continue, their engineers intend to commence from it a regular series of approaches along the slope of the spur, in opposition to the Russian works to the west of Careening Bay.

The firing from the Russian batteries, and also from the French advanced works on the left, has been very energetic. There have been several sorties, which have of course been repulsed, and there is no doubt with much severer loss to the enemy than to our allies. On the night of the 31st of January, however, in consequence of a company becoming surrounded, the French suffered severely in the officers and men of the party repelling the attack; but they executed severe vengeance on the assailing party subsequently, driving them back to the very walls of the town. There does not appear to be any want of shells or ammunition on the side of the enemy, as was suspected a short time since.

On the 28th inst. an immense waggon train was observed approaching toward Sebastopol by the northern coast road. Just after dark came on, in regular succession, plainly visible where the road winds round the top and side of the mountain to descend into the Belbec valley. So in succession they disappeared from view. The same convoy appeared after a time on the summit of the heights rising from the north shore of the great harbor of Sebastopol, near the entrenchments of the large Star Fort. The waggons were then divided into two lines, one descending toward the shore below the fort, and forming up on a comparatively level space of ground into regular rows; the other line proceeding in an easterly direction by a road which winds along the slope of the hill toward the ravine in which the navy

baking houses form prominent objects of view. The waggons were a government train, not country arabas, for they were uniform in shape and colour, and evidently substantial spring vehicles, each covered by a hood, and drawn by two horses, on one of which the driver sat *en postilion*. Various computations were made as to their number, the lowest being 600, the highest raising the figure to 2,000. Whether troops or provisions were conveyed by these carts could not be determined. A rumour is prevailing in camp that the two sons of the Emperor who were present at the battle of Inkermann have returned, and that they had brought with them a considerable increase to the force of the garrison. A flag which has been flying the last day or two from the summit of a fort on the south shore of the harbour, nearly opposite to Fort St. Nicholas, is said to be the imperial standard of Russia. The smallest advantage the Russian force from the arrivals of the convoy above alluded to will be, the large number of horses thus placed at the disposal of the commander-in-chief for artillery or other purposes, should the reports respecting the great mortality in the Russian battery and cavalry horses be true. It has been asserted lately, on the faith of the statements of deserters, that no serious attack could be possibly made against our position, for the enemy had no longer horses enough to bring up his guns. It was said that his artillery horses have suffered more than ours from the wet and exposure, and failure in the supply of forage; and the mortality, especially in the batteries which were on the opposite side of the Tchernaya's valley, has been excessive. A few sights since, however, two horses which had escaped from the Russian side, and were captured near the Ouchakov ravine, were found to be stout and in excellent condition—a fact which threw a doubt over the statements alluded to above. Sending back weak horses with the empty waggons, and selecting the stronger horses from among the recent arrivals, is a feasible plan enough; but there is considerable reason for doubting whether the Russian horses have been reduced in number or condition as has been represented.

Yesterday morning, Feb. 1, about seven o'clock, a general fire was excited in the right of the British camp by the rapid advance of a French division from the direction of the house known as the Telegraph House, on the Woronzoff-road. They came along at their usual rapid pace, marching in quarter distance column, having their bands fixed, with no sound but that which always accompanies a rapidly moving mass of troops and the suppressed buzz of many voices in short earnest conversation—not encumbrances, nothing but their arms and ammunition, and all with countenances expressive of determination and satisfaction at the prospect of an active encounter with the enemy. Two batteries of artillery accompanied the division, which consisted of a force of about ten thousand men. All the horses, both those drawing the guns and the chargers of the mounted officers, were stout and in excellent condition. General Bosquet, with a numerous staff and corps of Chasseurs d'Afrique, was in command. Part of the force consisting of the 2nd Regiment of Zouaves and the 7th Regiment of the line passed along the head ravine which separates the first and second brigades of the Light Division, and wheeling round formed up in column on the slope of the hill in front of the first brigade. The artillery and other infantry troops crossed the ravine high up, near the Ottoman encampment, and passing through the camp of the first brigade between the tents of the 23rd Fusiliers and 33rd Regiment, arrived at the same position about the same time as the troops which had marched by way of the ravine. A halt then took place while the general rode forward to an eminence on the ridge in front. He remained there a short time engaged in observation, and then rode down toward the work which used to be known as the 5-gun battery, and which is now being converted into a strong redoubt by the French who now occupy this position. General Bosquet was not long away, and on his return announced that the services of the troops were not then required, but that they were to hold themselves in readiness to turn out at a moment's notice, day or night, as a general attack by the Russians was announced to be not improbable. Arrangements were at once made for the return of the troops. Silence was no longer observed, but on the sentinels the bugles of every battalion, and the band of the 7th Regiment, sent forth their martial notes with apparently universal vigour as a challenge of defiance to the Russians. The parade must have been distinctly audible in the batteries around the Round Tower, and in the Admiralty yard and Barracks. No response came at the time however, and the French force returned with the same alacrity as it had advanced; the inspiriting sounds of the bugles at the head of each regiment cheering the men in their march. Those Zouaves are certainly in appearance the very embodiment of manful vigour and energy.

Shortly after the French troops had left, the Russians commenced throwing shells in the direction of the ground they had for the short time occupied; but they came too late to do any harm. The enemy continued shelling in the same direction for several hours, seemingly under the impression that the force, the bugle sounds of which they had no doubt heard, had taken up a position there. The shells were chiefly discharged from the works around the Malakhoff Tower, or rather the ruined remains of that structure.

Various were the rumours as to the cause of the sudden turn out of the French troops. The prevailing idea seemed to be that information had been received of a further reinforcement approaching to enter the city by the Inkerman valley, and that a demonstration had been made to re-depute their passage. I am inclined to believe, however, that, as one of the French officers suspected, it was *une fausse alerte*, by order of General Bosquet, for the double purpose of exercising the activity of the troops, and ascertaining the time it would occupy to bring the men and guns of his division, encamped a considerable distance off, to the front of the new works which the

French are to be occupying on the right attack.

The following appointments and changes have taken place since our last communication:

Major-General H. W. Barnard, Major-General Lord Rokeby, Captain W. Barnard, A.D.C., and Captain the Hon. W. Walcolley, A.D.C., joined on the 30th of January. Major-General Lord Rokeby has been appointed to take command of the Brigade of Guards; Major-General Barnard to command the 1st Brigade of the 3rd Division. Captain Peyton, 42nd Regiment, is appointed Brigade-Major of the Highland Brigade at Balaklava, vice Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. R. Boyle. Lieutenant-Colonel Powell, unattached, late of the 57th Regiment, is appointed Commandant of the Military Hospital at Smyrna. Major H. Smith, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, is to act as Assistant Adjutant-General to the 4th Division until further orders. Sergeant J. M'Queen, promoted from the Scots Fusilier Guards to be Ensign, is appointed Adjutant to the 5th Foot, subject to confirmation from England.

The following general orders have been issued:

Headquarters before Sebastopol, Jan. 31, 1855.

The Commander of the Forces requests that the Generals of Division will be so good as to ascertain and report how the morning of each of the regiments under their orders is carried on.

It is in the highest degree desirable that the system of messing established by her Majesty's Regulations should be reverted to, where the regiments are in possession of camp-kettles; and the Commander of the Forces desires that, as required by the Regulations, no officer should inspect the messes, and see that the provisions are properly cooked.

No. 2. The Commissary-General will be pleased to give notice to the Commissaries of Divisions when supplies of lime juice and vegetables are received for issue.

Lime juice will be issued and mixed as follows:—6 pints of lime juice, 6 pints of rum, 18 pints of water, and 4 lbs. of sugar, for 100 men.

General officers will be pleased to make arrangements to ensure that the lime juice is properly mixed in these proportions, under the superintendence of an officer, previous to issue.

No. 3. General officers commanding divisions will give the most stringent orders to officers on duty in the trenches and elsewhere, that no person whatever, except naval and military officers, members of soldiers, general and staff officers, shall be permitted to visit any part of the trenches or batteries, or to approach or loiter about any of the pickets, without a pass signed by the assistant adjutant-general. Similar vigilance must be observed in the neighbourhood of the camps, and any suspicious persons must be sent under escort to the head-quarters of the nearest division, when he will be examined by a staff officer, and if necessary forwarded thence to head-quarters.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

(FROM LAST NIGHT'S GAZETTE.)

War Department Feb. 16, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 3, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—Nothing has occurred in front of the British lines since I wrote to your Grace on the 27th January.

Before daylight on the morning of the 1st the enemy made a vigorous sortie on the most advanced works of the French right: they were repulsed, after a sharp contest, in the most gallant manner, by our ally, who, however, sustained some loss.

The weather, which had latterly been fine, broke yesterday; and, after a rainy evening, there was a fall of snow during the night, and there is again a frost, with an exceedingly cold wind.

The materials for the railway continue to arrive, but I fear it will not be possible for me to supply the amount of military labour which Mr. Beatty would seem to require.

Nearly two hundred Croatians, who were hired at Constantinople, have arrived, and been handed over to him, and more are expected, and, as a matter of experiment, I have obtained four hundred Tartars from Kupatoria.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c., &c.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, Feb. 5.

No stronger evidence could be offered of the variable nature of this climate than the weather we have had the last three or four days. On Feb. the 2nd the breeze was blowing from the south and south west, and we had a mild temperature, while soft genial rain fell, such as falls often on a spring day in England. Towards evening the wind gradually veered round to the northward, when the surface of the ground rapidly became frozen and hard, snow fell, and at night the cold was intense. So rapid was this succession of temperature, from comparative warmth to intense cold, that the canvas of the tents saturated with rain became transparent, and glazed, as it were; this was particularly obvious at night, when the rays of the moon were shining through, and the stretched web, and frozen cords, crisped and crackled with every impulse of the breeze. The wind continued to blow from the north on the two following days; at intervals, on February the 3rd, amounting almost to a gale, so that tents were felt for the safety of the tents. They held their ground, however, fortunately enough—for a torn out into the snow and driving wind would have been anything but pleasant. The few huts which have been erected maintained their position well, and gave no indications of want of firmness. On the night of the 3rd the wind subsided, but continued very severe until this morning, when a change in the east-ward, and a bright sun, brought again a milder temperature. The ground is now soft, and the snow is fast disappearing, except in patches where it has drifted to a considerable depth.

No change of importance has occurred in the siege operations. The frost of the last three nights has favoured the transport of heavy guns, several of which have been each night put into position in the works of the Inkermann attack. Stores of shot, shell, and ammunition have also been carried into the batteries on Greenhill and Frenchman's-hill, and preparations are being made on all sides for a vigorous renewal of the bombardment. Arrangements are making for the removal of the sick and wounded at present occupying the camp hospitals, but from their number, and the deficiency of transport, the preparation necessary for the reception of an increased number of occupants proceeds much more slowly than is desirable.

The issue of rations is now much more regular, and more full. The commissariat are not yet able to give the rations of fuel and light, except a small proportion for the use of the hospitals. The coffee is at last issued in a roasted state. Some preserved potatoes, and peas, which would be more useful if they were previously crushed, have been issued to the troops. A supply of cattle and sheep has also arrived, and been distributed to the several divisions of the army. Some of the supplies of the Crimean fund have reached us—among other things, packages of oranges and lemons, some of which have been sent to each regiment. These have been a most acceptable gift, as scurvy has been considerably on the increase. Altogether, the health and spirits of the troops appear improving, and the prospect of speedy active operations is causing an excitement which is calculated to save them from the apathy and torpor into which many had fallen.

The Earl of Clarendon has received a despatch from her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, dated Feb. 4, 1855, of which the following is an extract:

"I have the honour to enclose a copy of a note which I received yesterday evening from Monsieur Drouyn de Lhuys, consigning the sentence confirmed by Major-General Rose, and Majors Claremont and Foley, not only to the common cause in which they are engaged, but in General Canrobert personally in his communications with his own troops."

The note of M. Drouyn de Lhuys referred to also some very high compliments paid by General Canrobert to the three British officers mentioned, and states that the circumstance and great professional knowledge which they display has led him to make no distinction between them and the officers of his own staff, and to employ them like his own officers on most difficult services.

Journal of the Siege - Feby. 1855. Same, Contd? Same, Contd. Feby. 1855. Same, Contd.

THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Feb. 9.

We have been favoured with mild weather since I last wrote. On the 6th instant heavy gales from the south and south-west prevailed all day but subsided at night. On the 7th and 8th the wind blew from the same direction, bringing with it a thick sea fog. This day the wind has veered round to the north-ward; but the atmosphere is bright and clear, and there is no sign of frost.

Our new works are not yet sufficiently advanced to open their fire, and, judging from appearances, some days must elapse before they will be in a condition to undertake the renewed bombardment, which has been anxiously expected for the last month or six weeks. A rumour has been prevailing, since the arrival of the Princes at Sebastopol, that another Russian attack on our position was intended. Additional precautions have been taken, certain posts have been strengthened, the advanced sentries have been put on the alert to observe every movement on the part of the enemy, to watch for increase in the number or change of position of vedettes and sentries, and it has been notified to the officers in command of advanced posts that such circumstances, although seemingly trivial, are to be at once reported to the proper authorities. There has been a general desire that the enemy would make the attempt, for every one has full confidence of his meeting with a defeat, and at less cost to ourselves than on the 5th of November. We are better prepared than we were then, and there is a lurking hope that such an encounter may hasten the siege towards its conclusion. Every possible contrivance seems to have been adopted to aid around the town to guard against the assault. On looking from any one of the commanding points of view, so many batteries are visible, such lines of chevaux-de-frise, ditches, and embrasures—line within line, and tier upon tier—that I know nothing to compare it with—as completely is it armed at all points—better than the previous made by satire for the "fretful porcupine." From the vast number of its works, from the irregularity of their connexion, from the great extent of ground covered, the defences and fortifications of Sebastopol present altogether an appearance which no one has ever had the opportunity of seeing elsewhere. A deserter, who gave himself up at the advanced work of the 21-gun battery, on the evening of the 7th instant, and who called himself a Pole, stated that every street was dyked and entrenched by guns, and nearly every large building loopholed and fitted for defence. He said moreover that the town was mined in all directions. He mentioned among other things that a large number of planks had been prepared with long iron spikes, ready to be placed in any position for the purpose of interrupting either the passage of troops or progress of cavalry. Provisions, he reported to be very scarce, and the rations of the soldiers very limited in quantity and indifferent. A very general suspicion respecting the honesty and intentions of these Polish deserters exists among the troops. Yesterday afternoon, between three and four o'clock p.m., considerable excitement was caused in both the French and English camps in front of Sebastopol, by loud beating of drums in the arsenal and town. So loud was this drumming that it was plainly audible in the tents of the several divisions, and officers and soldiers were on the qui vive as to what was to follow. No unusual movement was observable, but the roll of the drums continued for nearly an hour. A heavy fire was going on at the time from the Garden Battery, and works in rear of the Flagstaff battery, against the French advanced works, and also the works in front of Greenhill. For some time it was supposed that perhaps an attack in this direction might be intended, or that the artillery fire against them was a feint to divert attention from some other point in the lines, but the time and daylight rendered this improbable. No movement on the part of the enemy followed, and the roll of drums was therefore supposed to be simply intended for honours paid to some distinguished personage—perhaps the Crown Prince—visiting the works.

Our troops have been very busy repairing batteries and the advanced works, which, from various causes, have become much dilapidated and out of repair. The damage done by the fire of the enemy has not been repaired from time to time as it occurred; but almost a worse injury than this to the works has been caused by provision not being made for drainage, and from the men taking the wood of the fascines for the purpose of using it as fuel. Every artifice has been adopted to steal away from the batteries with some sticks of the gabions and fascines, and it affords a proof of the extreme difficulty in obtaining the necessary fuel for cooking and other purposes when men, to secure a small portion, would thus sacrifice the means instituted for the protection of their lives. But the want of drainage, so easily effected by taking advantage of the slope of the hill, has not only been injurious in loosening the parapets, but it has caused serious mischief to the health of the troops. Unable to move for hours, worn out by fatigue and loss of rest, they have been in the habit of lying down, literally, in pools of water, and have doubtless thus imbibed the seeds of disease which has subsequently rendered them ineffective or been productive of fatal results. These deficiences are now being remedied, and working parties are engaged in these operations every night. Other parties are continuing to assist in arming the new batteries on the right. The French are rapidly advancing with their new redoubt in front of the 1st brigade of our Light Division, and in their other works on the right. They have also undertaken a new battery on Frenchman's Hill, in advance of our 21-gun battery. It will be completed before this reaches England.

There was a very heavy fire of musketry and heavy guns on the left about 2 p.m. yesterday, the 8th inst., apparently caused by a sortie against the French. It lasted about an hour.

The Turks are increasing in number in camp. The commanding officers are using every effort to bring the horses up from Balaklava. The Spanish mules lately arrived are also assisting in the work; but either from the Spanish saddles not being fitted for the work, or from the planks being ill-placed, these fine animals are becoming sadly galled. The arrival of the trained transport corps, expected from England, will be of material advantage.

The late promotions have caused a considerable number of regimental officers to become supernumeraries of their rank. They have been directed to proceed to England by the earliest opportunity. Four lieutenant-colonels, 11 majors, 39 captains, and 1 ensign, will, from this cause, leave the service companies of their regiments.

The following notice has been issued:

Head-quarters before Sebastopol, Feb. 5, 1855.

Private R. Cullen, 9th Regiment, an officer's servant, left the camp of the Third Division, at half-past 5 p.m. on Saturday the 3rd instant.

On Monday, the 5th, he was found, robbed and murdered, about half-way, and a little off the road, between his camp and Balaklava.

On leaving he was dressed in his greatcoat, marked "9th Regt., Ser. 1855, in F," and a shell jacket of the 23rd Regiment, with one good conduct badge. He had a regimental sword, broken in the centre and spliced, a large-sized revolver pistol, a chake-case with chake and sundry other articles, and a small leather medicine chest containing four square bottles, the property of Lieut. Harvey, 9th Regiment.

Any one who remembers to have seen this man after the time above mentioned, and who may have since seen any of the things described, or can afford any information on the subject, will report to the Provost-Marshal at Balaklava, or to the Adjutant-General at head-quarters.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, Feb. 24.

In the course of last night an attack was made by the French upon some works lately thrown up by the Russians upon the crest of the high cliffs immediately to the right of the ravine at the head of Careening Bay. The operation was attended by partial success, but our allies suffered a severe loss on the occasion.

Since the French have taken a share in the right attack, they have been considerably advancing the works destined to act against the shipping in the Great Harbour. To accelerate this aggressive advance, and to protect the ships, the Russian engineers, with great activity, had contrived to throw up a redoubt and covered way between the shipping and French batteries. They were extending this work across the brow of the hill by flying sap, and the intention was manifest of connecting the whole by works across the ravine known as the Right Ravine, with the batteries around the Malakhoff, or Round Tower. The enemy was thus in turn advancing upon the ground which we held in possession. The necessity was obvious of interrupting, if possible, those engineering operations.

Between two and three o'clock a.m. this morning (24th) the French force, between 5,000 and 6,000 strong, consisting of two battalions of the 2nd regiment of Zouaves, one battalion of the 3rd regiment of Zouaves, and a body of the Infanterie de la Marine, advanced in two columns against the enemy. The night was dark, the sky being obscured by clouds, but quiet. Orders had been given that not a shot should be fired, and to ensure this being carried out the French general had caused all the firelocks of his men to be uncapped; they were to drive out the enemy at the point of the bayonet. After marching for some distance in front of the French advanced works, they came upon a cross ravine, running nearly east and west; this they descended, and succeeded in mounting to the opposite side without meeting any opposition. Having formed ready for the charge they soon came upon some of the Russian sentries, who at once fired and fell back. The French troops rushed upon the work, which they entered, but the enemy was found prepared and in immense force. A tremendous fire of musketry was poured into the assailants, and kept up with wonderful steadiness and vigour. The French troops dashed against their enemies with the bayonet, but it was at once evident that the numbers opposed to them were too great to be driven away, and the order was therefore given to beat a retreat. At the same time there was a tremendous discharge of shells from the works around the Malakhoff Tower, from the lancette battery on the west side of Careening Bay, from the ships below, and also from the batteries near the Inkermann west light. The air was illumined by the discharge and the bursting of these missiles. They were thrown in every direction along which it might be supposed reinforcements were coming to the French troops. The Russians kept up for some distance their fire of musketry, the shells and round shot passing harmlessly over their heads.

The French succeeded in ascertaining the direction and nature of the work, and also destroyed it in part, but their loss has been very great. The number of casualties, in killed and wounded, is stated to be about 600. Of these about 340 occurred among the Zouaves. It is remarkable how few of the injuries received were caused by the bursting of shells, although the ground appeared covered with them. The wounds were almost wholly bayonet or gunshot. Among the officers severely wounded was General Le Mounier. He received a rifle ball in the chest, and was wounded by another ball in the wrist. The officers of the Zouaves suffered severely. Five are reported to be killed, and seven wounded. Some mistake is said to have occurred in an order given to the marines, which occasioned them to retire before the Zouaves, and consequently caused the latter to suffer more severely from the fire of the enemy.

It is confidently stated that at least 14 battalions of the Russians were drawn up ready to receive the French within the work, and the long concentrated line of fire of musketry which was seen to be kept up by them renders this statement most probable. So manifestly prepared were they for the attack, that it has led to a suspicion of treachery, and the cause of a French officer of rank has even been coupled with this suspicion; but it really would not appear necessary to resort to such an explanation of the defence made by the enemy. No doubt they would not have a new work, of so important a nature to them, without a very strong guard. Moreover, they very probably observed, as they could hardly fail to do, that strong reinforcements had been brought up in the course of the afternoon preceding the attack towards the right; and they might easily guess the object against which this force would be employed. The Russians have pickets on the heights on the opposite side of the Tchernaya and Inkermann valleys, who can observe many of our movements by the aid of glasses, especially those which take place along the right flank of our position. Communication by telegraph is constantly kept up, day and night, along the heights stretching all the way from the Inkermann position near Balaklava, both with the army on the north side of the harbour, and also with the garrison of Sebastopol. The fact of strong reinforcements having gone to the right, as they took place chiefly from General Bosquet's division in full daylight, might easily, therefore, have been told to the commander of the troops within the fortress, and he may have made his dispositions accordingly. At the same time it was well known, in the course of the afternoon, even in parts of the English camp, that an attack was to be made on the work in the course of that night by the French.

FEBRUARY 26.

During the night of the 20th instant and last night the guards and working parties in the French batteries and advanced works on the right have been very strongly reinforced. On the 20th a rumour was abroad that the Russians intended to make another attack from the direction of Inkermann; but no unusual occurrence took place. Last night the French strengthened their numbers on the right by so large an increase of force that it was generally surmised that another attack was to be made against the new works of the enemy on the right of Careening Bay. The enemy has been observed to be fast repairing the damage done by the French on the night of the 24th, and to be further strengthening the position. These works must be taken and destroyed. It is difficult to undertake the task by daylight, as the Russians have then a serious advantage in being enabled to direct the fire from their numerous batteries against the advancing force. At night the discharge from the heavy guns must be always given with more or less random, and the shells being visible in their flight are more readily avoided. Perhaps an attack might have taken place last night had it not been cloudless, and the moonlight clear and bright.

No change of importance has taken place elsewhere along the line of attack. The usual fire has been kept up on the left. There has been very little against the British works in what is now known as the centre attack.

Several casualties have occurred among men gathering brushwood on the hills above Inkermann. The men have to advance very far to the right, this kind of fuel having become so scarce in places nearer to the camp. Yesterday one of the Zouaves was severely wounded by a round shot, and a private of the 95th Regiment was killed while engaged in this occupation. The latter was struck in the upper part of the chest by a stone, which a nine-pounder shot drove against him, and was killed instantaneously.

The weather has again become milder the last two days, though there has still been frost at night. The wind has become southerly, and a fall of rain is threatened.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, March 2.

No event of importance has occurred since the last mail left with respect to the siege operations. The attack which was expected to have been repeated by the French against the new Russian works on the right has not taken place, and the enemy has taken advantage of the interval which has elapsed to strengthen their position. On the 27th of February a cessation of hostilities took place for one hour, to enable both parties to bury their dead. The loss of the Zouaves on the night of the 23rd is now said to have been exaggerated, the numbers at present stated being 68 killed and 186 wounded. Several were made prisoners. The Russian commander ascertained the comparative weakness of the French force making the attack by throwing out several fireballs just as the troops came into collision with the advanced sentries. After the allies retired from the scene of action the Russians shouted for several minutes, and the bells of the churches in Sebastopol continued pealing for about an hour afterwards.

Some very powerful rockets have been thrown into the town from the fort occupied by the French in front of the camp of the 1st Brigade, Light Division. They have named this work the Victoria Redoubt. The rocket practice was experimental, and the result is stated to have been very satisfactory.

The health and condition of the British troops in camp before Sebastopol, as well as near Balaklava, are gradually improving. The weather has been most variable. On Tuesday (Feb. 27) the temperature was that of a summer day, while the air was still, sultry, and oppressive. Yesterday (March 1) was almost as severely cold and trying as any day during the winter. A strong biting wind from the north, with occasional showers of sleet and hail, caused all the winter clothing to be brought into requisition as a means of protection. Snow has fallen to-day, but has not remained on the ground, in consequence of the warm influence of the sun's power; the wind is still blowing from the north, however, and we may expect frost at night.

Lieutenant-General Pennefather, C.B., has returned in good health from Malta, and has now resumed the command of the Second Division. Major-General Buller has consequently returned to take charge of the Second Brigade of the Light Division, which for some time has been in command of Colonel Shirley, 95th Regiment. The brigade of Guards has moved to Balaklava, much weakened in strength. The whole of the First Division is now at that port; and Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell, K.C.B., takes command of it temporarily.

The 97th Regiment, which was attached to the Brigade of Guards, remains in camp, and is now ordered to be attached to the Light Division. Colonel Lord George Paget, 4th Light Dragoons, who has returned from England, is appointed to take command of the Brigade of Light Cavalry. Lieutenant De Vere, Royal Engineers, is appointed adjutant to Major Gordon, Royal Engineers.

The following officers go to England at the recommendation of medical boards: Lieut.-Colonel Hon. H. Percy, Grenadier Guards; Major D. Fyffe, 60th Regiment; Captain Gibb, Royal Engineers; Captain T. Brown, 55th Regiment; Lieut. Martin, Royal Engineers; Lieut. Cresswell, 89th Regiment; Captain Phillimore, Grenadier Guards. Captain R. Brown, 60th Regiment, proceeds to Malta, on the recommendation of a medical board.

P.S. I find I have just time to write you another line before the post leaves. I can't do better than give you the following illustration of the working of our many-headed military system. There has just been coffee-mills issued to the regiments. Ever since we have been in the Crimea, until a week or two back, the coffee for the men was issued whole, and in a green state. Complaints were made of the difficulty of roasting the coffee in consequence of the season and the scanty fuel procurable, and also of the difficulty of pounding the coffee into a state of powder afterwards. No attention was paid to the complaints made in the regular official way, but at last the subject found its way into the newspapers. At length the coffee was issued in a roasted state, but still whole. No mills were then issued. Now the coffee is given out by the commissariat, not only roasted, but ground, and no sooner is this change effected—no sooner does it happen that coffee mills are no longer required for the use of the troops, than coffee mills are issued. No doubt the necessary instructions were given long ago, but what is considered to be equally necessary in our service, the time which might have been well occupied in carrying out those instructions, has been spent in correspondence. Letters pass between departments, time passes too, and at last the coffee mills come when the coffee has been ground. How many times, over and over again, have we had in our Crimean experience illustrations of this coffee-mill plan of proceeding.

You would hardly credit the number of returns, the voluminous documents, we are compelled to make out. I cannot conceive but that their very number must mystify instead of enlightening those to whom they are sent. But I expect those who receive them are too wise to trouble their brains by perusing them, unless in particular circumstances, when they may serve to illustrate a favourite text, or assist in forwarding a certain purpose. The individuals who compel us to engage in this eternal clerkwork would certainly contrive to curtail their demands, if they were to be equally compelled to wade through the results of all our labours. I was told the other day that a calculation had been made, that the expense for stationery supplied to the army by the commissariat actually amounted to 6s. 6d. per man, every man being included in this estimate who has landed in the Crimea!

DR. HALL AND THE REGIMENTAL SURGEONS IN THE CRIMEA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—A member of the ministry at home accused the lieutenant-colonels commanding regiments of ignorance of certain military duties, and attributed to that ignorance a great share of the calamities which have fallen on our army. Now, the Inspector-General of Hospitals, Dr. Hall, follows the example, and attributes the regimental surgeons of inflicting scurvy and all kinds of disease and abominations on the men of the different regiments by their neglect. Heads of departments have been called before the bar of public opinion; they in turn will show that the fault lies here in the regiments themselves. Nomination has always been held to be a bad argument, and to place those who have recourse to it in a very suspicious position. Sir W. Napier has publicly replied to the accusation brought against the lieutenant-colonels of the army; but I hardly know where to look for a public advocate for the regimental surgeons. Their services are little known, and less appreciated, out of the comparatively narrow circle of the regiments where fatigues they share, and which form the scene of their labours. But so long as our medical service is constituted as it is, so long as the system of regimental hospitals continues—a system which at the present moment the French are copying from us and endeavouring to combine with their excellent arrangement of divisional establishments—so long must the regimental surgeons be regarded as mainly holding in their keeping the sanitary efficiency of the troops, always supposing, of course, that they are provided with the necessary means for carrying out their duties. Such an accusation as that by Dr. Hall is therefore of the greater gravity, and demands the strictest investigation. Here is the memorandum:

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ORDER.

Camp before Sebastopol, Feb. 17, 1855.

The Inspector General of Hospitals is sorry to find from recent inquiries that cold, scurvy, sickness, and great personal filth prevail amongst the men of the different regiments, for want of due attention on the part of the regimental medical officers in making the periodical inspections of the men in their tents, required by the regulations of the service. He therefore requests superintending medical officers will see that this duty is performed weekly, and so important does he consider personal cleanliness on the part of the men, as a preventive of disease, that he directs a certificate may be added on the back of the weekly state of sick that this duty has been performed. Government has provided soap, and there is no excuse for the men going about from one week's end to another without either washing their persons, or changing their flannels and shirts.

(Signed) T. HALL,
Inspector General of Hospitals.

And all this Dr. Hall has discovered by "recent inquiries" when the month of February has passed its meridian, when scurvy, dysentery, and other diseases have carried off their victims by hundreds. Why, could an Inspector-General of Hospitals condemn himself more thoroughly? Consider the nature of the evils described, consider their results, that by these the army has been reduced to comparative inefficiency, and then consider that it is only by "recent inquiries" that the Inspector-General has discovered that regimental medical officers have been the cause of these calamities by their neglect. Is the service of our allies this word "recent" under such circumstances would be fatal to an officer in Dr. Hall's position. And what have the regimental medical officers neglected? To make weekly inspections. The mountain labours, a mouse is the ridiculous offspring. Have not the regimental surgeons passed their daily lives among their men? Have they tents not been pitched among their tents, and must they not have closed their ears, and shut their eyes, not to have been continually inspecting their men? But because the form of a weekly inspection has not been kept up, Dr. Hall thinks he has discovered a clue to the prevalence of scurvy, and itch, and personal filth among the troops. If Dr. Hall had moved more among the regiments, he would have known that regular formal inspections, such as are made in barracks, could not have been made in the field. Regimental surgeons have been well aware of the unhealthy state of their men, they must have lost more senses than the sense of sight if they had not been. I have had occasion more than once to advert to the subject in writing, and over and over again have tried with my commanding officer to devise a plan for the personal ablution of the men. But constantly out of camp as they were, worn out by the siege duties, and by fatigues, hardly able to get sufficient water to the tents for cooking, with no means of heating water but the open air fires, no ablution sheds, no utensils, no vessels for purposes of washing, no soap, more or

the ground, with no change of underclothing for a very long period; with mud for the place of rest, and canvas the only protection against the weather, it became impossible for commanding officers to carry out a system of proper cleanliness. And, after all, the regimental surgeon has no power of enforcing a system among the men as they in a regiment; his control extends only over the sick in hospital. He may recommend, but his power stops there. Towards the latter part of the order, Dr. Hall says, "government has provided soap." This provision must have been nearly as recent as Dr. Hall's inquiries. None of the regiments belonging to this division have been provided with soap by the government, and the commanding officers are not at this moment aware that a supply of this article could be got for them. As soon as soap could be obtained from the stores at Balaklava it was purchased by the captains of companies for their men. For months I made requisitions for soap for hospital purposes without success; and it was only just prior to my getting some as a donation from the fund distributed through the agency of the gentleman sent out by the *Times*, that I was able to get any from the Purveyor's department.

Is it not too bad, is it not enough to make one's pulse beat with double speed from mere indignation, after officially complaining again and again of want of medicines and medical comforts, and other absolute necessaries for the sick, after remonstrating, as I have done, over and over again against the excessive fatigue, the deficient and ill selected rations, the fearful exposure, and a host of other avant-couriers to debility and disease—after witnessing the sickness come, and having to treat it in all its worst forms and under the most disadvantageous circumstances—is it not too bad to be told that my neglect has been the cause of personal filth, scurvy, and other calamities? Is it not hard to have to submit in silence to so grave an accusation? If true, the lives of hundreds are upon our heads, and hundreds of the best soldiers of England. Is this a matter of the mere passing moment, to be handed about in a department memorandum, and there an end of it? Let the country judge between its regimental surgeons and Dr. Hall, whose name has become so familiar in connexion with the neglect at Alma, neglect in the camp, neglect on the sick transports, and neglect in the hospitals at Scutari. I think it was Mr. Godolphin Osborne who asked publicly the other day,—"Who and what is Dr. Hall in the Crimea?" and who is he, I ask again, to be permitted thus to wound with impunity our best feelings? I acknowledge his high position and his authority, but not his right to attack my character by so outrageous an accusation as this—that the prevalence and spread of disease and death among the men of my regiment is to be attributed to my neglect. For scurvy, in its various forms, has been the prevailing disease and chief source of death among the men for some time past, and this is named by the inspector general as one of the results of our neglect.

If the troops had been provided at an earlier period with the necessaries almost for very existence; if the hospitals had been better provided with the necessaries for the treatment of the sick, the regimental surgeons would not have had the painful spectacle, by daily and hourly inspection, of witnessing the men of their regiments dwindle down from emaciation and disease; they would not have had the daily spectacle of soldiers being carried to their last resting-places in these ravines, who, under more favourable circumstances, might now be strong, and ready to fight the battle of their country. Would that we regimental surgeons were to be brought before some properly constituted tribunal of public inquiry! I, and others are quite prepared to defend our cause.

A REGIMENTAL SURGEON.

A GOOD SOLDIER.

The following is the copy of a letter addressed to the friends of Hospital-Sergeant Tarley, 19th Regiment, by the surgeon of the corps. Sergeant Tarley died lately in consequence of fatigue and exposure before Sebastopol, and the letter bears testimony to his high character and valuable services. The letter is alike honourable to the writer, and to him whose merits it records.

"To Mr. Simon Clarke, Athlone.

"Camp, above Sebastopol, 26th February, 1855.

"Sir,—I feel that Hospital-Sergeant Tarley, 19th Regiment, lately sent you a sum of money, that you might give it to his next, Mrs. Ward, residing near Athlone. I write now to ask you to perform the melancholy task of informing her of his death. He died on the 16th instant, and was buried yesterday in the ravine near to our camp. The commanding and every other officer of the regiment off duty followed his remains to the grave, and a great proportion of the non-commissioned officers and privates. This tribute of respect is a sufficient proof of the estimation in which Sergeant Tarley was held by the officers of the regiment in which he served, as well as by his comrades; and it will, doubtless, be a source of consolation to his relations to know that he was so much esteemed by them.

"I am desirous that you would also express to his relations my own feelings of exceeding regret at his loss. I had served with Sergeant Tarley for some years past, in the West Indies and in North America; and ever since the return of the regiment to England, in 1851, I have had him constantly under my immediate observation in the hospital. During this period, I have invariably known him to be a painstaking upright soldier, and never heard of one instance in which he was charged with an act of moral or military misconduct. He displayed particular activity, and, in several instances, great personal courage, while acting as sergeant of military police in Canada. He showed marked moral courage as hospital sergeant during the prevalence of cholera in Bulgaria, and was unceasing in kindness and attention to his sick and dying comrades. His constant exertions, by day and night, and exposure, especially during the sickness which has prevailed during the last two months, weakened his constitution very considerably; and to this debility, more than to any distinct malady, I attribute his death. I have lost in him a very able assistant in the hospital duties; and the regiment has lost a valuable non-commissioned officer, who cannot be easily replaced.

"A short time since, in conjunction with the captain of his company, I recommended him for the 2lc. gratuity, or for the medal and gratuity, given by a recent royal warrant for distinguished service in the field. The commanding officer considered, however, that these grants applied only to gallant conduct in action with the enemy, otherwise, I have no doubt, his long service and excellent character would have procured for him one of these marks of distinction.

"I shall forward to your care a watch, which he usually wore, by the first opportunity I can find. His other effects will be accounted for in the usual way.

"Please to communicate the contents of this letter to Sergeant Tarley's relatives—say I confide with them on their loss, and that I had hoped he would have been spared to return home to act as a support and comfort to them after the term of his military service had expired.—Believe me, yours obediently,

"THOMAS LONGMORE, Surgeon, 19th Regt."

THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, March 5.

The Russians are busily employed, day and night, in strengthening the new works they have opened near the end of the mountain spur which flanks Carcening Bay to the eastward. They have already formed an advanced work, and connected it with the redoubt by a covered way. Yesterday (March 4) they could be plainly seen dragging guns up the slope, and along the ridge towards the redoubt. Judging from the height of the wheels and the mass of men employed at the ropes (there appeared to be between two and three hundred men dragging each gun), it must be inferred that they are arming the battery with metal of very heavy calibre. They pursued their operations with every appearance of confidence and determination in the open daylight, knowing well they were just out of the range of our heaviest guns. A well-directed rocket might have reached them, and a shell from some of the recently-placed mortars created a surprise, but they were permitted to carry on their operations without interruption. Within the redoubt can be seen timber for platforms, and a rough plank shed has been raised, under which some work is going on, judging from the number of soldiers who are constantly entering and leaving it. There are said to be strategical reasons for not repeating the attack on the position which was made by the French on the 24th ult.

Another work the enemy is busily employed upon is what appears to be intended for a floating bridge across the Great Harbour. At present it consists of a number of large floats, connected with which are numerous masts and booms, arranged in a zigzag direction. At intervals there are small platforms of sawn timber and planks. It commences a little north of Cape Nicholas, and stretching out in a north-easterly direction, already extends half way across the water. Whether this work is intended simply to act as an obstruction to the further progress of vessels which may have succeeded in forcing an entrance through the line of sunken ships at the mouth of the harbour, or whether, as is not improbable, it is intended to be a means of communication and passage from the town to the north shore, does not yet appear; it will be soon seen, however, should the work continue to advance as rapidly as it has done the last few days.

The army encamped on the heights north of Inkermann are still seen to be busily occupied in entrenching their position. Their camp now stretches over a very extensive area, and seems to be strongly fortified in every respect. Its connexions with the great north fort, and the communications of this stronghold and the camp, with the line of forts and batteries along the north shore of the harbour, from Fort Constantine to the batteries on the West Light-house Cliff, are daily rendered more substantial and secure.

A recent reconnaissance, and the reports of spies, would lead to the belief also that the enemy is making a very determined effort to disturb our position at Balaklava, by bringing up to the heights eastward of the pass through which winds the road to Baidar, some mortars of such a calibre as would enable them to throw shells over our entrenched position into the port below. Rumours have been prevailing in camp that a combined French and English force is shortly to take the field for the purpose of defeating this object of the enemy, and the troops intended for the expedition have been named.

Nearly all the new English works are now armed. The former existing batteries have been strengthened by guns of considerably greater power. On the night of March the 3rd a new battery on the left was commenced, very considerably in advance of Chapman's battery on Greenhill. Although very close, the enemy did not perceive the working parties on the first night, and extraordinary progress was made towards the completion of the work; but last night (March 4) they kept up a very active fire of shot and shell from the Barrack and other batteries in rear with the intention of impeding its progress. A few days only, in all probability, will elapse before the Russians will discover fully not only the position and strength of this work, but of all the other works recently constructed by the French and ourselves.

The position of the allies has been strengthened on the right by the addition of the ninth French division. This fine body of troops, lately arrived from France, is now encamped immediately behind the English Light Division, who still retain their place in front, and also occupies part of the ground lately vacated by the Guards' brigade.

The English troops continue to improve in condition and health. Some detachments of convalescents have arrived from the Bosphorus, and, together with the detachments lately come from England, are seasonable additions to the reduced numbers of the regiments remaining in camp. The weather during the last few days has been less cold, and has been dry.

I regret to say that a soldier from one of our most distinguished regiments deserted to the enemy, on the night of the 3rd instant. He was a bandsman, on duty to assist in the removal of the wounded, and went over from the advanced work in front of Fecnhaman's hill. As soon as perceived he was fired at by his comrades, but he appeared to escape unhurt.

Two mails for the troops are now due. The mail bag, for head-quarters only, arrived by the last packet. The explanation given was, the weather, on the leaving of the steamer, was so rough, it was with the greatest difficulty that even that bag was put on board; but it is suspected that motives of policy, as well as the weather, had influence in the event.

Winter clothing continues to be issued. The officers have just received their long boots; and, it is reported, the seal skin great coats are to be given to them in a few days. The Tartars say, that occasionally in the month of March the weather is very severe, and that not unfrequently heavy falls of snow take place, but soon melt away. To judge from present appearance, a stranger would say that all severe weather had passed. No snow now remains on the surface of the plateau, and the ground, in large plots, where it is left untrodden upon, is assuming a greenish hue, from the young grass springing up. Only the highest peaks of the mountains seen in the distance retain their white covering; the lower ranges flanking the Tchernaya and Balaklava valleys have completely resumed their natural garb.

Colonel W. Sullivan, assistant-adjutant-general, has had a severe attack of illness, but is now convalescent. He has been advised to proceed to England for the re-establishment of his health, and will leave in a few days. The following officers also proceed to England at the recommendation of medical boards:—Lieut.-Colonel Reeve, Grenadier Guards; Surgeon Lawine, 63rd Regiment; Capt. Marshlem, 20th Regiment; Lieutenants Morgan Rotherham, 20th Regiment; C. J. Burton, 4th Regiment; Waldy, 46th Regiment; J. Tucker, Royal Artillery; Assistant-Surgeons King, staff, and Orr Crichton, 4th Light Dragoons; Knight Wonder, 21st Regiment. Colonel H. Storks, unattached, has been appointed to take command of the military establishment at Smyrna, with Captain George Whitmore, 62nd Regiment, to act as aide-de-camp.

P.S. The Welsh Fusiliers gave a large dinner party to celebrate St. David's day. They got up one of the cheese huts, the only one erected in the division I believe, and contrived to decorate it with festoons of Turkish sesrvee, whitewash, pictures from the *Illustrated News*, and candelabra made of groups of bayonets, exceedingly tastefully. The appointments were rather of a mixed character, being composed of contributions from each officer, but what with preserved fish, flesh, fowl, and vegetables, capital wines, &c., from Balaklava, the viands were worthy of England

hoisted of the Crimea. Some very good speeches were made in reference to the events of the past year, and these and the toasts were done full honour to by peals of artillery from the trenches in front, and the bursting of shells in the air. Each regiment of the division was represented, and the utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed. A dinner party being a very great event here, it was kept up very late as you may imagine.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, March 8.

On the morning of Tuesday the 6th instant, one of our new batteries on the right opened fire against two Russian vessels lying at the upper part of the harbour. This battery, so close to the edge of the cliff, that a stone could be cast from it into the water below without much difficulty, was traced out some time ago by Major Gordon, R.E., but had remained masked until the date mentioned. The chief objects against which its fire was to be directed were, a paddle-wheel steamer constantly employed in transporting troops and stores across the harbour, and another steamer, armed with a heavy mortar, which has been the source of annoyance by its facility of changing position and obtaining shelter under the points of land which project from the southern shore. On Monday evening these two vessels were seen to be lying out from the land, east of the entrance to Carcening Bay, about one third of the distance across the harbour to the north side. They were calculated to be about 1,600 or 1,700 yards from the battery in question, and within range of several of the guns with which the work was armed, as well as the shells of a mortar battery connected with it. The form of the battery would only admit of a limited number of its guns being brought to bear upon the steamers.

Shortly before day broke, before the hulls of the vessels themselves were visible, a slight curl of smoke from one of them showed that they had not quitted their position. The fire at once commenced. It was not possible for some time to perceive with any accuracy where the shot fell; but, when the mist had cleared away, and the masts of the two vessels became visible, it was evident that she had been struck. There seemed to be no doubt, judging from the abortive efforts which were observed to be in motion, that the paddle-wheel looking towards the battery had been injured. In spite of all endeavours to get steam up, half an hour and five minutes elapsed before the vessels had quitted their berth, and during this time above sixty rounds of shot and shell were fired against them. It was calculated that eight or ten of these at least had been effective. The nearer steamer was seemingly warped off, and, as she disappeared round a projecting point to the westward of her former anchorage, it was for some time supposed that she had sunk. This supposition was chiefly caused by the sudden appearance in the course of her track of two boats crowded with sailors; but subsequently she was seen passing the entrance to Carcening Bay, with masts and side considerably damaged by the fire to which she had been exposed, but still floating on toward the Dockyard.

A very short time was permitted, after the battery had been unmasked, and the fire opened against the ships, before the Russian guns in turn opened their fire against the new work. A constant discharge was kept up from the two batteries near the west Inkermann lighthouse, from the battery on the edge of White Cliff, and from the work westward of the entrance to Carcening Bay; but, whether the guns were badly served, or whatever might be the cause, they failed altogether either in damaging our work or injuring any one within it. Captain Lushington, R.N., commanding the naval brigade, Captain Moorsom, R.N., and other officers were present, in addition to those in immediate charge of the battery.

The same evening a considerable portion of the British force before Sebastopol received orders to be under arms, and ready for active work at a moment's notice. It became whispered about that the Commander-in-Chief had received a telegraphic message of the most important character—no less than news of the assassination of the Emperor Nicholas—and that it was thought not unlikely the Russian garrison and army, under the influence of irritation and fanatic zeal, might issue out and make a desperate assault upon our lines. The night passed quickly, however, excepting the usual fire in the batteries, and the rumour was ascribed to one of the usual camp "shaves." The following morning it became so far confirmed that no longer any doubt remained of intelligence having reached head-quarters of the death of the Emperor, and that it was there supposed to be true. The information was stated to have come from Berlin, and to have been sent by Lord John Russell, with a message that he had reason to confide in its accuracy. Nothing was known as to the cause or place of the Emperor's decease. A communication was made on the subject, under cover of a flag of truce, with the Governor of Sebastopol, who is reported to have replied that he had neither heard, nor did he give credit to, the rumour of such an event. Whether credited or otherwise, it has not, to all appearance, produced any effect or change in the ordinary operations of the siege; but, as may be imagined, the subject has been the chief topic of conversation in camp, and all kinds of speculations as to its probable influence in the progress of the war have been mooted in every quarter.

There is a story going about the French camp that their night attack of the 24-h of February last against the new Russian works on the right of Carcening Bay was disclosed to the enemy, who were thus enabled to prepare a large force to resist it, and that the plan of operations was betrayed by the interpreter attached to General Canrobert's staff. He is said to be a Frenchman by origin, but to have passed a long time in Russia. I do not know what foundation there is for the assertion. The enemy are actively engaged in strengthening the footing they have thus established. They have now two redoubts, one of which appears to be completely armed, in the position alluded to, and one of these can be scarcely more than six hundred yards from the advanced work held by our allies. Already the Russians have their riflemen placed in the usual pits in front of the redoubt, and they and the franc-tireurs of the French are now exchanging shots. To establish a hold in this direction was a masterly move on the part of the Russian engineers, but they are so hemmed in by the large force and works of the allies which surround them that their further progress must very speedily be arrested. The fire from the batteries on the left has been very active on both sides during the last few nights. The French have occasionally continued to discharge powerful rockets from the Victoria Redoubt in front of the Light Division. Last night, March 9, a very active discharge of these missiles was kept up against the town and shipping near the entrance of the South Harbour, and the enemy replied by throwing shells from the works around the Malakoff Tower, along the middle ravine, and against the redoubt.

The weather has continued fine and mild. Officers and men are improving in health and spirits. Inspections and parades are becoming more frequent, and the troops are coming out of their sheepskin clothing and party-coloured garments, and appearing in the old accustomed garb, like so many bees emerging from the closely-folded coverings with which they have been invested in their state of chrysalis. The numbers in the field hospitals are considerably lowered, and the number of those who report themselves sick is daily diminishing. Great attention is being paid to the sanitary arrangements of the camp, and of the ground around Balaklava—a very necessary precaution before the warm season sets in. Gifts of warm clothing from England, intended to have been delivered in January last, are pouring in daily, and the question now is, What is to be done with them? Many commanding officers are opposing their sending, thinking preparations for depositing them in stores for use when another winter shall come. The eatables and drinkables sent by the Crimean fund are also being distributed, arrangements having been made so that each regiment should obtain a proportion. On all sides there have been warm expressions of gratitude, not merely for the gifts, but more particularly for the kind feelings which have prompted the givers. There are few, whatever their rank or position, who do not feel a deeper anxiety, a more fixed determination, to serve their country's cause, from having so fully experienced their country's sympathy.

Among the recent deaths I regret to mention that of first-class staff surgeon Dr. Fine, not long since promoted from the 6th Dragoon Guards, but latterly in medical charge of the 3rd Division. He was a very active officer, and about a month or six weeks ago was said to have incurred no little obloquy on account of some very strong remarks respecting the condition of the troops.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

ADVANCE OF THE RUSSIANS.—IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 12.

The enemy contrived to throw up another new entrenchment the night before last [March 10], and in a very important position. In front of the Malakhoff Tower hill, and a little to our right of it, is a mamelliated knoll of considerable size, familiarly known in the camp as "Gordon's-hill." It has been so called because at a very early period after the army encamped before Sebastopol it was surveyed by Major Gordon, R.E., as a favourable site for the erection of a battery. It was found, however, to be so bare and rocky, that would have been so much difficulty in obtaining the earth necessary even for the most ordinary breastwork, that the plan was then abandoned. But the intention was not given up of occupying this point as soon as circumstances were more favorable for the requisite preliminary operations. As things have happened, it is well perhaps that the hill was not occupied by us before the winter season set in; for, being so much in advance, and so exposed to the fire from the works around the Malakhoff Tower, its armament would have required constant repair and renewal, and this would have been a matter of serious difficulty from the state of the roads and deficient means of transport.

The Russian engineers also have not failed to observe the value of this position, both for defensive and offensive purposes. For defence, a battery on the top of this hill, armed with heavy guns and connected by regular works with the Malakhoff batteries and those adjoining Careening Bay, would be an advanced point capable of maintaining a formidable resistance against any attack upon it. At the same time it would command the approach from the camp, towards the Russian lines, along the ravine of Otchakov, which it dominates just before the ravine expands into the irregularly-shaped valley lying at the foot of Frenchman's hill and the hills on which the Redan Fort and Round Tower works are placed. For offensive purposes, being nearly on a line with our second parallel, or advanced work, on Frenchman's-hill, and of superior elevation, it would necessarily become the source of serious annoyance to our operations in that direction. Considering the advantages possessed by the enemy of having their supplies close at hand, with an immense available amount of labour from the entrenched army in their rear, it is a matter of surprise that they have not before attempted to secure a hold on this ground. Their present attempt is evidently part only of a connected series of operations, of which the new works in progress east of Careening Bay are another portion; the whole being intended to counteract further advance in a direction from the Inkerman heights, but more especially to oppose the progress of the operations of the allies on the right, which, among other purposes, are manifestly calculated to make head against the fortifications surrounding the arsenal and town by flank attack.

The work thrown up by the Russians during the night of the 10th inst. was very quickly and expeditiously performed. By daybreak on the 11th the plan of a redoubt had been marked out, and an extensive breastwork and ditch had been made. As they continued in the course of the day to employ their troops at the work, it was determined to arrest its progress. This was speedily effected by a few discharges from the Lancaster gun to the right of the 21-gun battery. The Russian working party, which appeared to be very large, speedily retired under cover after the first or second discharge. A heavy fire of shells was speedily thrown from the Malakhoff works, both at the Lancaster and Gordon batteries, but without any harm being effected. No casualty occurred among our men.

But a more serious strife is no doubt at hand. The very importance of the position to the Russians renders it imperative on our parts not to permit their securing it for themselves without contest. The French and English general officers commanding the engineers, and General Canrobert in person, were seen for some time busily surveying the neighbourhood of this new point of interest, and engaged in close conference. Shortly after they had taken their departure, orders were given for every available man of the Light Division of the English, servants and batmen included, to be under arms at sunset; in part for a working party, the remainder to form a guard. This body of troops moved off, and remained in a convenient situation in silence, which was interrupted only by the fire kept up between the batteries on Frenchman's-hill and the Redan and Round Tower—the rushing noise of the Lancaster throwing grape in the direction of the enemy's working parties—the occasional roll of drums in Sebastopol, mingled with the barking of dogs, who always make themselves heard in great numbers whenever there is more than ordinary disturbance in the garrison—or the loud call of the Russian sentries passing on at regular intervals the accustomed watchword. At length sufficient darkness, favoured by the absence of the moon, was spread around for the working parties to advance, and follow the directions of the engineers unobserved by the enemy. At the same time a large body of French troops moved on the right, and, the necessary dispositions being made, the Allies worked in concert at a covered approach in a direction toward the new Russian work, which daylight alone exposed to the attention of the enemy. This approach was commenced on the left with the advanced works on Frenchman's hill; on the right with the line of advanced works held by the French on the Inkermann heights. During the night the enemy threw a considerable quantity of shot and shell against Frenchman's hill, and several times there was an interchange of musketry between the sentries thrown out in front and those of the enemy. Our casualties, however, amounted only to one man of the 34th Regiment killed and one of the 88th wounded. So far in advance on the left was the sap carried that a number of the pits used by the Russian riflemen were either filled up or carried into the line of work, and there will now be sufficient cover to prevent them from again lodging themselves in this position.

This double advance of the enemy on the east and west sides of the deep ravine which leads to Careening Bay is now the chief subject of interest in the right attack, and must within a very short time lead to a closer struggle. Large working parties will, this evening, continue the approaches, commenced last night, towards Gordon's-hill.

No rockets were fired last night from the Victoria redoubt. So strong is the glare of light at the moment the rocket starts from the gun, and so wide the distance over which this is reflected, that on the night of the 9th inst. a working party employed on the extreme left of Frenchman's-hill, and very much in advance, were by this means suddenly exposed to the sight of the enemy, who at once took advantage of the discovery by commencing a heavy discharge of shells in their direction. On the following night the discharge of these powerful missiles was continued, and a small building in the dockyard was set on fire, but speedily extinguished.

Several deserters have come into camp from the enemy, and have reported that Prince Menschikoff has been wounded, the story is, that he was wounded in the leg by a round shot while going round the fortifications, and that amputation has been performed; another is, that he has been accidentally wounded by a shot from a Russian rifleman.

The Rev. Mr. Sheahan, one of the most devoted of the Roman catholic chaplains with the army, died in camp yesterday. He had not very long returned from the hospital at Scutari, to which he had gone after suffering from a very severe illness in the early part of the winter.

The last day or two we have had high wind and rain, but the weather is now mild. The health and appearance of the troops continue to improve daily.

MARCH 16.

As yet all is preparation, but no events. The weather is beautifully mild, but the wind is strong though it does little harm. My shanty has been blown down by one of the wild bursts. I have been obliged to have everything packed up to prevent petty larceny, and am sitting like Marius among the ruins of Carthage.

THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 18.

The Russians have not been enabled to make much progress with their new work on Gordon's-hill, in consequence of the constant interruption, day and night, to their working parties. They are exposed, looking from the position of the besiegers, to a cross fire from the English works on the left, and from the works, but also as reserves. Much as the enemy suffered from our fire during the first two days of the bombardment, their number of casualties must be immensely increased whenever the new bombardment is opened. The close proximity of the French batteries on the left; some of our batteries, and those the most important, diminished in distance to nearly one-third of that from which they originally opened; the new works on the right, for use against the shipping, and others the fire of which will be directed against the works defending the arsenal and dockyard; distance lessened, but weight of metal increased, and that of a superior description; [illegible] calibre; powerful rockets, of a novel kind, and most [illegible]: all these combined cannot [illegible] sion on the fortifications of [illegible]ich as not only has not been [illegible]but in all probability will be [illegible] Should I not be exaggerating works and their armament—[illegible] of the enemy not be underembarkment commence before [illegible]ive to recruit its force—thes[illegible]ng time will elapse before the [illegible]e will be accomplished, and, [illegible]ensal, and south side of the [illegible]d at the disposal of the allies, [illegible]e able to perfect the new [illegible]ill—the "Mamelon Redoubt" [illegible]s the round-like shape of the [illegible] of which the work has been [illegible]require a strong armament of [illegible]. In case of an assault the [illegible] will render necessary that it [illegible]any attempt could be made [illegible]Tower and its works. The [illegible]sider its possession of great [illegible]ite of the determined fire [illegible]ortion, have been making vigo[illegible]s completion the redoubt itself [illegible]s the works in the rear. It is [illegible]ish on the left, and the French [illegible]make regular approaches to[illegible]a order to be able to retain [illegible]taken; and the progress of [illegible]which large working parties [illegible]the Russians have vainly at[illegible]to the 12th instant, soon after [illegible]working party had arrived at [illegible]lains, taking advantage of the [illegible]which was at the time absorb[illegible]er noise, came forward and [illegible]ty of our gabions. They were [illegible] and sustained scarcely any[illegible]stanched fragments of the rock [illegible]and in this situation is [illegible]ney were removed without [illegible]a loss was discovered as [illegible]s and working party reached [illegible]e opened in the supposed di[illegible]freezing with their booty. In [illegible]ook a number of the gabions [illegible]bout 40 or 50 yards in front of [illegible]all probability it was only a [illegible]ssians who had come up to the [illegible]ed visits had removed the ga[illegible]ordered a distance beyond our [illegible]however, went forward, and [illegible]es back, but the recovery of [illegible]ed worth the risk and expo[illegible]enemy's riflemen. It would [illegible]ttering to the Russians had [illegible]ks of our fellow-countrymen [illegible]. About the same time that this [illegible]attack was made by a force, [illegible]of 80 or 90 men, against the [illegible]ork, but was speedily repulsed. [illegible]y was made a prisoner on this

[illegible]Hill, some distance below the [illegible]de, the enemy has contrived to [illegible]e up numerous stone heaps, or [illegible]rmed sentries. Considerably [illegible]s advance of these, and at a short distance easily from the line of approach being worked by the French, they also succeeded in digging four pits for sharpshooters, with a wall sufficiently high to ensure their protection. The sharpshooters were thus enabled to annoy our allies at their work, and these pits have been the object of several contested attacks. The first attempt to drive the Russian riflemen from the pits was made on the 16th instant, just after dusk. They were found to be well guarded, but the French, amid a heavy fire of musketry and repeated salvos from the Malakhoff batteries, and those near Careen-

See p. xxv p. 74

St George's Cathedral
Southwark
April 2. 1855.

My dear Sir

I trust you will forgive me, a stranger, for writing to you, but as I hold, however unworthily, the position of a superior towards the Chaplains, I hope it is not an intrusion to ask you to allow me to thank you for your friendship and encouraging kindness towards [illegible]

He was my very dear friend, and in my grief for his loss, it is a consolation to think that the goodness which endeared him to us the [illegible] known him to love, should have secured for him your esteem & your regard.

I feel that his last request would have been, not to a prayer for your welfare here & hereafter, that I shall endeavour to acknowledge your goodness, you can from your knowledge of [illegible] that words will not help me to speak of all the gratitude which his friends & myself must ever entertain towards you.

If the sad circumstances of this war should allow you, as I sincerely hope, to return to this country, I hope that you will remember me if I ask to renew in person the expression of [illegible] & imperfect as it ever must be, of my respectful & affectionate gratitude. It will be an honour to me to know my dear friend, that I must

Journal of the Siege. March 1855. Same, Cont.d

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

ADVANCE OF THE RUSSIANS.—IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 12.

The enemy contrived to throw up another new entrenchment the night before last (March 10), and in a very important position. In front of the Malakhoff Tower hill, and a little to our right of it, is a mamillated knoll of consid known in the camp as "Gor so called because at a very ea encamped before Sebastopol Gordon, R.E., as a favourabl a battery. It was found, ho rocky, there would have be obtaining the earth necessary nary breast-work, that the pi But the intention was not ing this point as soon a more favourable for the operations. As things have perhaps that the hill w us before the winter season much in advance, and so expo works around the Malakhoff would have required constant this would have been a ma from the state of the roads Transport.

The Russian engineers also serve the value of this posi and offensive purposes. For the top of this hill, armed wit rested by regular works with and those adjoining Careen advanced point capable of ma resistance against any attack tinue it would command the sp towards the Russian lines, Ochakow, which it dominates expands into the irregularly-s the foot of Frenchman's hill the Redan Fort and Round To For offensive purposes, being our second parallel, or advance man's-hill, and of superior ele surely become the source of sup operations in that direction. C vages possessed by the enemy close at hand, with an immen of labour from the entren ceasy, it is a matter of surpris before attempted to secure a Their present attempt is evident nected series of operations, of in progress east of Careening flon; the whole being intended advance in a direction from the cially to oppose the progress of allies on the right, which, amon manifestly calculated to make h functions surrounding the arsen attack.

The work thrown up by the night of the 10th inst. was ver tively performed. By daybreak of a redoubt had been marked breast-work and ditch had been tinued in the course of the day at the work, it was determined This was speedily effected by a the Lancaster gun to the right The Russian working party, wh very large, speedily retired and or second discharge. A heavy speedily thrown from the Malakhoff work, both at the Lancaster and Gordon batteries, but without any harm being effected. No casualty occurred among our men.

But a more serious strife is no doubt at hand. The very importance of the position to the Russians renders it imperative on our parts not to permit their securing it for themselves without contest. The French and English general officers commanding the engineers, and General Canrobert in person, were seen for some time busily surveying the neighbourhood of this new point of interest, and engaged in close conference. Shortly after they had taken their departure, orders were given for every available man of the Light Division of the English, servants and batmen included, to be under arms at sunset; in part for a working party, the remainder to form a guard. This body of troops moved off, and remained in a convenient situation in silence, which was interrupted only by the fire kept up between the batteries on Frenchman's-hill and the Redan and Round Tower —the rushing noise of the Lancaster throwing grape in the direction of the enemy's working parties—the occasional roll of drums in Sebastopol, mingled with the barking of dogs, who always make themselves heard in some numbers when [illegible]

[illegible] town open by one or the wind-bursts. I have been obliged to have everything packed up to prevent petty larceny, and am sitting like Marius among the ruins of Carthage.

considerable temptation, guarding him to the last and pledging it alternately by the caresses of Skell & leaving entirely of his noble proportions, and by the constant presence & proofs of that affectionate interest which made him unable to distinguish the friend from the physician.

I am sure that your letter, of which he begs you kindly allow us to make use, will show it would be his greatest pleasure.

Allow us to thank you for your goodness to our friends Colonel Wilson and to their Captains Major Butt & O'Boyle. They will feel more than they can express their attention to the least & kindest of the number; and they must be supported in the suffering by the thought that many of their messmates the same consideration & sympathy. The same kindness shall be extended during your attendance on Mr Sinclair.

I beg to remain.

My dear
Yours most faithfully
+ Thomas Land
Catholic Bishop

Same, Contin.d March 1855. Same, Cont.d 75

THE ARMY BEFOZE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 18.

The Russians have not been enabled to make much progress with their new work on Gordon's-hill, in consequence of the constant interruption, day and night, to their working parties. They are exposed, looking from the position of the besiegers, to a cross fire from the English works on the left, and from the [illegible] are not the only new [illegible] on the enemy. The number of guns mounted in front of the whole line of works from Careening Bay to Quarantine Fort has been vastly increased; and numerous batteries have sprung up behind these again, where there were none at the opening of the siege. Batteries have been erected on the verge of the cliffs on the north side of the roadstead, toward its termination at the Inkermann valley, and also on the Lighthouse hill, for the purpose of interrupting our operations on the right. The force of artillerymen required for the defences of Sebastopol exceeds twofold now that which was required at the commencement of the siege, not only for actual service in the works, but also as reserves. Much as the enemy suffered from our fire during the first two days of the bombardment, their number of casualties must be immensely increased whenever the new bombardment is opened. The close proximity of the French batteries on the left; some of our batteries, and those the most important, diminished in distance to nearly one-third of that from which they originally opened; the new works on the right, for use against the shipping, and others the fire of which will be directed against the works defending the arsenal and dockyard; distance lessened, but weight of metal increased, and that of a superior description; [illegible] of large calibre; powerful rockets, of a novel kind, and most [illegible]: all these combined cannot [illegible] session on the fortifications of [illegible]ock as not only has not been [illegible] but in all probability will be [illegible]. Should I not be exaggerating [illegible] works and their armament— [illegible] of the enemy not be under- [illegible]bardment commence before [illegible]ve to recruit its force—there, [illegible]ng time will elapse before the [illegible]e will be accomplished, and, [illegible]west, and south side of the [illegible]d at the disposal of the allies. [illegible] be able to perfect the new [illegible]ill—the "Mamelon Redoubt" [illegible] in the round-like shape of the [illegible] of which the work has been [illegible] require a strong armament of [illegible]. In case of an assault the [illegible] will render necessary that it [illegible]any attempt could be made [illegible] Tower and its works. The [illegible]sider its possession of great [illegible]fits of the determined fire [illegible]action, have been making vigo- [illegible]s completion the redoubt itself [illegible] the works in the rear. It is [illegible]ish on the left, and the French [illegible] make regular approaches to- [illegible]a order to be able to retain [illegible] taken; and the progress of [illegible] which large working parties [illegible] the Russians have vainly at- [illegible]In the 12th instant, soon after [illegible] working party had arrived at [illegible]ians, taking advantage of the [illegible] which was at the time absorb- [illegible]er noises, came forward and [illegible]y of our gabions. They were [illegible], and contained scarcely any- [illegible]ttached fragments of the rock [illegible] and in this situation [illegible]ey were removed without [illegible]s loss was discovered as [illegible]s and working party reached [illegible]s opened in the supposed di- [illegible]recting with their booty. In [illegible]eak a number of the gabions [illegible]out 40 or 50 yards in front of [illegible] all probability it was only a [illegible]epeate who had come up to the [illegible]ed visits had removed the ga- [illegible]sidered a distance beyond our [illegible]however, went forward, and [illegible]m back, but the recovery of [illegible]red worth the risk and expo- [illegible]: enemy's riflemen. It would [illegible]flattering to the Russians had [illegible]lls of our fellows commenting About the same time that this [illegible]s attack was made by a force, [illegible] of 80 or 100 men, against the [illegible]ork, but was speedily repulsed. [illegible]y was made a prisoner on this

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This very grateful & well-expressed letter by Bishop Grant reached me in the Crimea. After my return to England I took an opportunity of calling upon him at the Cathedral or rather in the building attached to it where he resided, when I gave him for Sheehan's bible to send to Sheehan's mother who was living near Cork. Sheehan had given me his well-worn bible as a gift just before his death — it was I believe the only thing he had to give away. Mr Butt who is mentioned in Bishop Grant's letter is now Bishop of Southwark — I think he succeeded Dr Thorpe after Bishop Grant's death —

T. Longmore

Woolston 1891.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

ADVANCE OF THE RUSSIANS.—IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 12.

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THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 13.

The Russians have not been enabled to make much progress with their new work on Gordon's-hill, in consequence of the constant interruption, day and night, to their working parties. They are exposed, looking from the position of the besiegers, to a cross fire from the English works on the left, and from the batteries worked by the French on the right. Although the discharge from the Lancaster battery and Gordon's battery, on Frenchman's Hill, has been severe and effective, the batteries on the right have been the more obnoxious to the enemy. From the line of fire of these latter works shot and shell sent from them, but not striking the position of the new redoubt on Gordon's Hill, pass on in a direction towards the works round the Malakhoff Tower. The Russians have, therefore, chiefly endeavoured to check the fire from the batteries on the right, and not only the guns in front of the Malakhoff Tower, but also those in the two new redoubts on the height east of Careening Bay, both of which are now armed, have been worked with this object. It has been observed that the Russian fire has not been nearly so active or heavy as it was a few weeks since. It has also been noticed that when increased at one given point, it has slackened at others along the line of defence. Whether this has been owing to a diminished force of artillerymen in the garrison, or whether the fire is merely reserved for the more urgent occasion of the opening of our expected new attack, is of course matter of surmise. A Polish deserter, who gave himself up on the night of the 13th instant, stated that there was considerable uneasiness in the garrison respecting our re-opening the bombardment, as they were by no means so well prepared for it as the appearance of the batteries would lead us to suppose. This deserter appeared to be more worthy of credit than many who have come over to us, as he was dressed as an officer, and described himself as a lieutenant in the Russian service. It would appear also that partly from over-calculating the effects of the disastrous storm in November last, and partly perhaps depending upon the reports of the state of the army as described in the press, together with actual knowledge of the severity of the season and its ordinary consequences, the enemy had not anticipated our being in so effective a condition as we now are. This miscalculation, and the necessity of dividing his force, partly against Eupatoria, partly for observation, may have caused the Russian general to lessen the available strength for duty in the batteries and garrison; and if this should be so, it becomes an important question whether the enemy by extending his line of defence, as he has been doing lately, is not in reality weakening his capability of offering opposition to a vigorous and general attack on his works. There can be no doubt that the new redoubts on the crest of the hill to our right of Careening Harbour are, as engineering works, very valuable additions to the means of protection for the shipping in the roadstead, and also as obstacles to our advance from the right; but it will require a considerable increase to the number of Russian troops employed in the siege operations to man and defend these batteries and keep up the necessary communications. Whether the Russian generals have such a force at command as will enable them to spare without inconvenience this distribution of their artillerymen, remains to be seen. It has been considered that in this respect the enemy has made a mistake; and this has been one of the arguments used for not repeating an especial attack against these particular works, but rather for waiting until matters were sufficiently ripe for the grand attack by the whole artillery of our siege works combined. It must be remembered that these are not the only new batteries of the enemy. The number of guns mounted in front of the whole line of works from Careening Bay to Quarantine Fort has been vastly increased; and numerous batteries have sprung up behind these again, where there were none at the opening of the siege. Batteries have been erected on the verge of the cliffs on the north side of the roadstead, towards its termination at the Inkermann valley, and also on the Lighthouse hill, for the purpose of interrupting our operations on the right. The force of artillerymen required for the defences of Sebastopol exceeds twofold now that which was required at the commencement of the siege, not only for actual service in the works, but also as reserves. Much as the enemy suffered from our fire during the first two days of the bombardment, their number of casualties must be immensely increased whenever the new bombardment is opened. To close proximity of the French batteries on the left; some of our batteries, and those the most important, diminished in distance to nearly one-third of that from which they originally opened; the new works on the right, for use against the shipping, and others the fire of which will be directed against the works defending the arsenal and dockyard; distance lessened, but weight of metal increased, and that of a superior description; mortar batteries of huge calibre; powerful rockets, and other projectiles of a novel kind; and most destructive in character; all these combined cannot fail to produce an impression on the fortifications of the town and arsenal such as not only has not been experienced hitherto, but in all probability will be found to be irresistible. Should I not be exaggerating the power of our new works and their armament——should the strength of the enemy not be underrated, and the new bombardment commence before reinforcements can arrive to recruit its force—then, in all probability, no long time will elapse before the great object of the siege will be accomplished, and, at least, the town, arsenal, and south side of the roadstead, will be placed at the disposal of the allies.

Should the Russians be able to perfect the new redoubt on Gordon's Hill—the "Mamelon Redoubt" as it is already called, from the round-like shape of the low hill on the summit of which the work has been commenced—it will also require a strong armament of guns for its protection. In case of an assault the position of this work will render necessary that it should be taken before any attempt could be made against the Malakhoff Tower and its works. The enemy manifestly consider its possession of great importance, and, in spite of the determined fire against the working parties, have been making vigorous efforts to carry on to completion the redoubt itself and its connexion with the works in the rear. It is necessary that the British on the left, and the French from the right, should make regular approaches toward the Mamelon, in order to be able to retain possession of it when taken; and the progress of these approaches, in which large working parties have been employed, the Russians have vainly attempted to prevent. On the 12th instant, soon after sunset, and before our working party had arrived at the new sap, the Russians, taking advantage of the dusk and a high wind which was at the time absorbing in itself all slighter noises, came forward and carried off about seventy of our gabions. They were very imperfectly filled, and contained scarcely anything beyond small detached fragments of the rock of which the ground in this situation is formed; so that they were removed without much difficulty. The loss was discovered as soon as the engineers and working party reached the spot, and a fire was opened in the supposed direction of the men retreating with their booty. In the morning at daybreak a number of the gabions were observed lying about 60 or 80 yards in front of our trench, so that in all probability it was only a small body of the Russians who had come up to the work, and by repeated visits had removed the gabions to what was considered a distance beyond our reach. Some men, however, went forward, and brought a few of them back, but the recovery of more was not considered worth the risk and exposure to the fire of the enemy's riflemen. It would not have been very flattering to the Russians had they heard the remarks of our fellows commenting upon their "theft." About the same time that this must have occurred, an attack was made by a force, apparently consisting of 80 or 100 men, against the left of the advanced work, but was speedily repulsed. One man of the enemy was made a prisoner on this occasion.

Around Gordon's Hill, some distance below the ditch of the new redoubt, the enemy has contrived in the night time to throw up numerous stone heaps, as places of shelter for advanced sentries. Considerably in advance of these, and at a short distance only from the line of approach being worked by the French, they also succeeded in digging four pits for sharpshooters, with a wall sufficiently high to ensure their protection. The sharpshooters were thus enabled to annoy our allies at their work, and these pits have been the object of several sustained attacks. The first attempt to drive the Russian riflemen from the pits was made on the 14th instant, just after dusk. They were found to be well guarded, but the French, amid a heavy fire of musketry and repeated salvos from the Malakhoff batteries, and those near Careen-

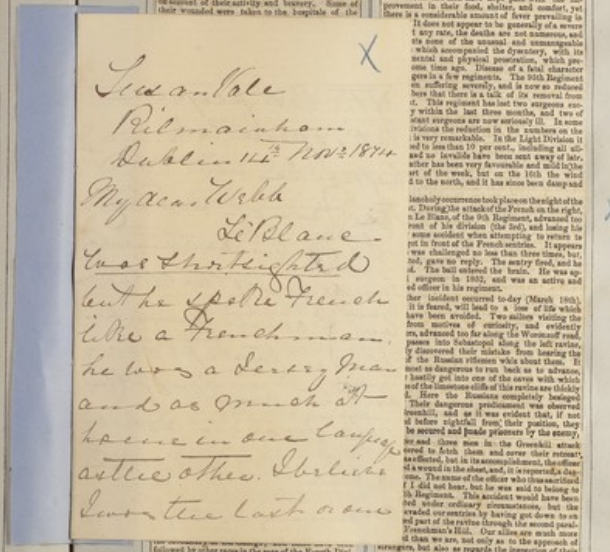
ing Harbour, gained possession of them. In less than an hour afterwards the enemy returned in great force, and in turn our allies had to seek shelter behind their works. The fire on both sides was remarkably vigorous and rapid, and the possession of the pits was disputed with great obstinacy. I am informed that our allies in this affair had two officers and seventy men placed *hors de combat*. For a period of about twenty minutes, between eight o'clock and nine p.m., as sustained and unceasing were the volleys of musketry; so terribly vehement was the fire from all the batteries in centre and to the right, as each tried to check the fire of its antagonistic battery, and divert it from the more exposed positions of the troops; so vivid the flashes, in the dark atmosphere of the evening, so frequent the fiery lights in the air of the flying shells and the glare cast around by those which were bursting; so loud the roar of the cannon, so repeated the sharp "bang" of shells in their explosion, so sharp and continuous the rattle of the small-arms; that, for the time mentioned, the struggle going on appeared to be more dire than any since the commencement of the siege. Yet, so secure has been made the shelter of the parapets, and, what is of more importance, so alert and experienced have the troops become in taking advantage of them, that comparatively few casualties occurred. Amid all the din was occasionally heard the sharp shout, or rather yell, of the Russians as they advanced to the attack or pursued it with renewed vigour. The Light and Second Divisions of the British force moved to the support of the covering troops in the trenches, but did not become engaged. The Russian riflemen having again obtained possession of their places of ambush, ensconced themselves during the remainder of the night in deepening the pits, and adding to the height and security of the walls by placing several layers of sand bags upon them. These sand bags being made of the ordinary light coloured canvas, are particularly conspicuous from being deposited in regular rows upon the dark coloured mould which forms a considerable stratum as the foot of the hill is approached, and which was previously thrown up from the pits. The French and English working parties on their side carried on with energy the new line of entrenchment, and this work is now completed on each side as far as the verge of the ravine. When the sap has been carried down the sides and across the ravine, the connexion between the most advanced work—the third parallel—of the British on Frenchman's Hill, and the most advanced line of our allies on the right, will be complete. This would perhaps have been already achieved, but the present termination of the French line has been brought to the ravine some thirty or forty yards in rear of our line, so that either our parallel will have to be thrown back that distance, or the French parallel advanced, in order to make up the junction. On our side the parallel has been carried to a distance of about 600 yards from the regular Russian line of defence. In the course of its construction several of the stone pits from which the Russian riflemen used to keep up a constant fusillade against our covering parties in the second parallel, and even in the 21-gun battery itself, were completely destroyed. A shallow ravine only now separates our third parallel from the shelving ground immediately in front of the large buildings comprised within the dockyard and arsenal walls. This shallow ravine is a continuation of the middle, or Ochakov, ravine, which winds round the foot of Frenchman's Hill, to terminate in the south, or Admiralty, harbour. The usage of the siege operations published by Wyld and others usually represent this ravine as pursuing its way almost in a direct line towards the great roadstead, and terminating in a sort of bay between the south harbour and Careening harbour. This is not so. The hill on which the Malakhoff Tower rests is continuous with the high ground of the Karabelnaia suburb, and is not intersected by the Ochakov ravine, which, as I mentioned before, turns off to the left to join with several other ravines in terminating in the valley of the south harbour. This explanation is necessary, to understand the relative positions of the new works going on on the right, where at present the chief interest of the siege is centred. At night the advanced sentries of the Russians are placed partly down their shelving slope of the ravine, so that they and the sentries in advance of our third parallel are now within ear-shot of each other, and often not more than 30 or 40 yards apart.

General Canrobert and his staff have paid daily visits to the new works on the right. On Thursday, the 15th, he ordered that another attack should be made against the four Russian rifle-pits. These pits are immediately in front of the new French line of trench, separated by a space of about fifty yards. The attack was made, as usual, at night, and commenced about half an hour after sunset. The Russians made a vigorous resistance, reserves having been brought down from the redoubt to defend the pits, but they were eventually driven back. The walls of the pits were partly levelled, and the face of the remaining portions turned, to prevent the Russians from again occupying them. A sharp fire was afterwards kept up to prevent the enemy returning to repair the mischief thus done to their works, and, as there was no reply, it was supposed they had abandoned the attempt and retired within the redoubt. When daylight broke, to the surprise of all, the Russians were found to have constructed two other ambuscades; one on their right (our left) of the four original pits; and another, which might almost be named, from its regular construction and size, a redoubt, higher up on the slope of the hill. Of course both had been worked quietly out of the line of fire which had been pertinaciously poured in towards the old pits by our allies. It is only doing justice to the Russian engineers to acknowledge that this is only one of the many proofs of their being as ready in devising means of defence, and counteracting or avoiding difficulties, as the men appointed to guard their works have been found vigilant for their defence.

No attempt was repeated against the Russian outworks on the 16th, but during the day a very active fire from Gordon's battery, and from the advanced battery held by the French on the height above the ravine known as the Right Ravine (leading down to Careening Bay) was kept up against the working parties in the Mamelon redoubt. Many wounded were observed to be carried from this work. Excellent practice was made by one of the 13-inch mortars, several shells from which fell in the very centre of the large redoubt. At one time the enemy were observed to leave the work in such numbers as to lead to the belief that the whole of the working party had been driven out. On Saturday, the 17th, about 2 p.m., a well-directed shot from a 68-pounder in Gordon's battery struck the upper pit, or small redoubt, occupied by the Russian riflemen. A sword, calculated to be 60 in number, immediately took flight up towards the large redoubt, and, without going round to the entrance, sought shelter in the nearest part of the ditch. About 30 other riflemen followed in quick succession, escaping two or three together. Strange to say, although a continuous volley of musketry was poured into these men as they fled up the hill, only one was observed to be struck. At the time that the first party ascended in a body it appeared impossible that more than half would be able to reach the redoubt, so concentrated was the fire against them from the trench of our allies; but not one was seen to be injured. I have since heard that the troops guarding the trench at this time were not armed with the Minié rifle; with that weapon so many could not possibly have escaped.

On Saturday, the 17th, the French Commander-in-Chief, after observing for some time the operations on the right, was understood to give very stringent orders respecting another attack against "Les Embusches." The pits on the side of the hill were to be destroyed, and the pits originally made near the French lines—two, which the Russians, in the course of Friday night, had again contrived to occupy—were to be connected, and a communication established with the main trench. A battalion of Zouaves, supported by two battalions of Chasseurs à Pied, were to have the honour of executing this undertaking. Unfortunately, in consequence of some misunderstanding or mistake in the distribution of the orders, the plan was not carried out as arranged, and the object only partly accomplished. The Chasseurs à Pied arrived too late to act with their comrades; and one battalion of the 3rd Regiment of Zouaves, and that considerably weakened in numbers from the winter campaign, had to bear the whole brunt of the affair. These men advanced nobly, took the first pits, and established the line of communication between them and the trench. The order was then given to advance up the hill, which they did at a rapid pace. The upper large pit was abandoned on their arrival, and the battalion went on almost to the foot of the principal redoubt. At this moment a tremendous line of musketry opened upon them; the upper part of the Mamelon appeared to be on fire. Several battalions of the Russians, in evident anticipation of the attack, had been concealed in the redoubt, and now from above did fatal execution on the devoted Zouaves. The supports were called for, but none appeared, and nothing was left

for the brave Zouaves but to retire. Out of the battalion, only 300 strong, as many as nine officers and 160 men were either killed or wounded. The slaughter of the encounter was shown by the number of legs cut wounds. One company had all its officers and all the sergeants but one placed *hors de combat*. The British, from their position on the left, took no part in the affair. The Light Division was under arms, and the several regiments in their appointed places as a reserve, but were not employed. Many of the men, especially those from the Emerald Isle, appeared anxious to come to closer quarters with the Russians, if only to do honour to the patron saint, Patrick, whose fête they had not forgotten to celebrate. I need not say that general sympathy was felt for the Zouaves, who, throughout the campaign in the Crimea, have been constantly conspicuous for the soldierly activity and bravery. Some of their wounded were taken to the hospitals of the



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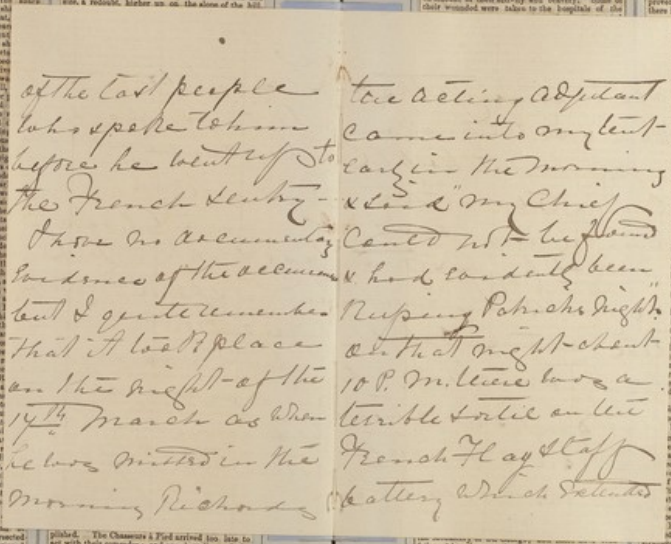

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It is generally reported that the attack will be repeated this evening, March 16th. General Canrobert has paid a lengthened visit to the advanced trench. The British Light Division is again ordered to be under arms and ready for action at a moment's notice. A large body of the French Imperial Guard have moved over to the right. There has also been some talk of an attack on the part of the enemy. About eight battalions were observed this morning to be formed on the north side of the roadstead, on a shelving plain to our right and below the Star Fort, and this force was afterwards conveyed by the steamer and boats across the harbour to the south side. Perhaps these were no more than the ordinary relief of the troops in garrison. The Russian batteries have continued remarkably silent. During the last 48 hours hardly a dozen shots have been fired from the batteries along their whole line of defence, and many of the embrasures have been masked. Is there a want of ammunition? or are the troops otherwise engaged?

A rumour has been going through the camp—which I could not trace to any reliable source, beyond the report of a deserter—that Prince Mentchikoff is dead. No particulars are given.

The obstruction across the Great Harbour, which was lately begun near Fort St. Nicholas, has been extended to within a short distance of the north side. At present it terminates a short distance from the point of land forming the west horn of the bay near Fort Soukhim. It appears to consist of a series of floats, and debris of old hulks, connected for the purpose of forming a third line of obstruction against the advance of hostile ships into the roadstead. It is said that several vessels have been sunk here. The masts of nine ships-of-war of various sizes, not to mention the small steamers, can still be observed in the roadstead and harbour.

Although the work of warfare is pursued as hotly as ever in our front, the renewed health and vigour of men and officers are lending them to seek for other excitement when off duty. There were races at the beginning of the week near the small village of Karany, which lies about half-way between the head-quarters road from Balaklava and the Monastery of St. George; and these have been followed by other races in the rear of the Fourth Division, at which, in spite of unpropitious and cold weather, a large crowd from both services, and of all grades, assembled. There was a cold biting wind from the north, and the winter clothing was brought into requisition. Motley was the only wear; the costume of regulation was seemingly with one accord, from high to low, thrown aside. The course was excellently arranged, and, all the stones having been cleared away, was in capital condition. It would be difficult to say which were seen in the most curious variety—the horses, ranging from the English thorough-bred, or highly-conditioned Arab charger of the French officer, to the worn-out hat-horse; or the men, from all climes, and in costumes of every imaginable cut and colour. I send you a "correct programme" of the races, which may be interesting to some of your readers. Those sports have at least the utility of diverting the thought from the monotonous "off duty" life in the Crimea, and are the best indication of the generally improved condition of the troops in the field.

The racecourse was made on the side of the hill, which very gradually slopes down toward the ravine now known in camp as the Sailor's Ravine, the naval brigade still being encamped there, and exerted round the present position of the 14th and 20th Regiments. These regiments have now been completely brought up from Balaklava, the last detachment of the 14th having come up on Thursday last. These are the only regiments entirely hutted. The huts are arranged in four rows, so that three streets are thus formed.

Although on the whole the health and spirits of both officers and men have kept pace with the improvement in their food, shelter, and comfort, yet there is a considerable amount of fever prevailing in camp. It does not appear to be generally of a severe kind; at any rate, the deaths are not numerous, and it presents none of the unusual and unmanageable features which accompanied the dysentery, with its abject mental and physical prostration, which prevailed some time ago. Disease of a fatal character still lingers in a few regiments. The 90th Regiment have been suffering severely, and is now so reduced in numbers that there is a talk of its removal from the front. This regiment has lost two surgeons successively within the last three months, and two of the assistant surgeons are now seriously ill. In some of the divisions the reduction in the numbers on the sick list is very remarkable. In the Light Division it is reduced to less than 10 per cent., including all ailments, and no invalids have been sent away of late. The weather has been very favourable and mild in the early part of the week, but on the 16th the wind changed to the north, and it has since been damp and cold.

A melancholy occurrence took place on the night of the 17th inst. During the attack of the French on the right, Surgeon Le Blanc, of the 9th Regiment, advanced too far in front of his division (the 3rd), and losing his way by some accident when attempting to return to camp, got in front of the French sentries. It appears that he was challenged no less than three times, but, it is stated, gave no reply. The sentry fired, and he fell dead. The ball entered the brain. He was appointed surgeon in 1852, and was an active and respected officer in his regiment.

Another incident occurred to-day (March 18th), which, it is feared, will lead to a loss of life which might have been avoided. Two sailors visiting the front from motives of curiosity, and evidently strangers, advanced too far along the Woronzoff road, which passes into Sebastopol along the left ravine, and only discovered their mistake from seeing the shots of the Russian riflemen who shot them. It was almost as dangerous to run back as to advance, as they hastily got into one of the caves with which the sides of the limestone cliffs of this ravine are thickly studded. Here the Russians completely besieged them. Their dangerous predicament was observed from Greenhill, and as it was evident that, if not removed before nightfall, their position, they would be secured and made prisoners by the enemy, an officer and three men in the Greenhill attack volunteered to fetch them and cover their retreat. This was effected, but in its accomplishment, the officer received a wound in the chest, and, it is reported, a dangerous one. The name of the officer who thus sacrificed himself I did not hear, but he was said to belong to the 17th Regiment. This accident would have been prevented under ordinary circumstances, but the sailors evaded our sentries by having got down to an advanced part of the ravine through the second parallel on Frenchman's Hill. Our allies are much more guarded than we are, not only as to the approach of strangers, but also as regards the inspection of their works by those who could not be suspected of improper motives. It is only by an order from very high authority, signed and countersigned, that any one not on duty is permitted to enter the French trenches, and a person is always appointed to accompany a visitor; our works can be entered by any one in the dress of either service, though of course subject to the surveillance of the officer in command.

Among our recent casualties I regret to name Captain Craigie, of the Royal Engineers. He was returning homeward from the 21-gun battery on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 13th instant, and had reached the middle ravine. A shell, thrown from the Malakhoff tower in the direction of the Victoria redoubt, burst in the air, and a large portion in falling struck him on the back. The spine was shattered, and he died instantaneously. Captain Craigie was

always spoken of as an officer of experience and great engineering ability, and his death is a serious loss at the present time. He was recruiting with some Snippets, and singularly enough had just been conversing on the best mode of avoiding an exploding shell. Poor fellow, he little thought one was so shortly to burst over his own head, defying all rules to escape its fatal message.

Lieutenant-General Simpson joined the staff on the 14th inst., and has since been occupied in visiting the various positions of the camp in company with the quartermaster-general. It has been announced in orders that a proportion of the sealskin coats has been received, which officers can purchase at 8l. 8s. each. This is rather late, and not very liberal, considering a fortnight of the month of March has passed. The officers who left England during the winter months were provided with thin article of dress and other things free of cost before they came out, *pour les apparences* perhaps; those who were enduring the winter campaign, with the exception of a favoured few, saw their fresh comrades arrive in comfortable costume, and are now offered the same advantages at a price which will no doubt cause the articles to remain in the stores where they are collected. The police animals in charge of regiments and departments are about to be given up to the new land transport corps. This must lead to the removal of many of the difficulties particular regiments have been labouring under during the winter. A board of health has been constituted in general orders, consisting of the inspector-general and the principal medical officers of divisions, for the purpose of exercising general sanitary control, and reporting regularly upon subjects connected with this duty. The following changes have occurred in the staff:—Lieutenant and Capt. H. Lindsay, Scots Fusilier Guards, has been appointed A.D.C. to General Simpson; Captain Forster, 4th Dragoon Guards, has been appointed A.D.C. to Col. Hodge, commanding the brigade of Heavy Cavalry; and Captain Portal, 4th Light Dragoons, A.D.C. to Colonel Lord G. Paget, commanding the Brigade of Light Cavalry; Captain Lowry, D.A.A.G., has left for Scutari, to do duty under Brigadier-General Lord W. Paulet.

MONDAY, MARCH 19.

Neither the expected attack of the French against the Mamelon redoubt or earworks, nor the Russian attack talked of against our works, happened last evening. Soon after dark the French opened on the left a more vigorous bombardment against the town than has yet been attempted. All their new mortar batteries opened, and a terrific discharge followed. The air was alive with shells. A series of cascades of stars, as it were, played into the town, falling with such regularity, that seen from the distance of the right attack, it appeared more like a *feu d'artifice* than the discharge of so much heavy metal. Behind the batteries of mortar weight some of the large 13-inch mortar works were opened, the shells from which rose to an amazing height before they fell on the devoted town. The crash of their explosion reverberated among the hills. This continued shelling was kept up for some hours, and must have caused vast destruction. The fire of the Russian riflemen against the embrasures of the advanced works, active enough at first, gradually subsided. But the most wonderful part of the spectacle was the almost total absence of any flash from the Russian batteries. A complete silence reigned along their whole line. To fifty or a hundred shells thrown from the French, and from some of the works on Greenhill, scarcely one replied from the Russians. This formed so remarkable a contrast with the usual activity of the enemy's batteries, that it became the subject of much speculation. Whether there was really a dearth of ammunition, or whether from such a terrible shower of metal it had been thought prudent for the gunners to conceal themselves as they best could until the hottest part of the storm was over, was equally uncertain. During the French attack on the night of the 14th instant, an Irishman, who had been two years in Sebastopol, managed to effect his escape to our lines, and he reported that there was great apprehension in the garrison respecting our opening the new batteries. Whatever the cause, while an uninterrupted shower of shells was being poured into the town, scarcely a shell or shot was returned to check the fire or in retaliation. There was equal silence preserved in the Redan, and in the works around the Malakhoff Tower, on the right—although from time to time the Lancaster and 24-gun batteries, and the French battery at Inkermann, maintained a fire against the parties supposed to be working in the new Mamelon redoubt. We must look to time alone for the explanation. The bombardment of last night on the left is a sample of what will be the fire against the town and arsenal, when all the new works are opened. This is talked of, from day to day, as likely to occur speedily. The news to come from England by the next mail is anxiously looked for, as the probable effect of the Emperor's decrees, it is generally supposed, will become known on its arrival.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 21.

A sortie made by the Russians last night, first against the French advanced trench, and subsequently against the advanced works of the English, near the Mamelon redoubt, led to considerable loss on all sides, but chiefly on that of the attacking force. The slope of the Mamelon-hill is strewed with the Russian dead, and many of their bodies are lying in the fosse within our and the French line of breastworks.

The following appears to be the most connected account of the attack; and the details, as they become known by degrees, are found to accord with it. About 11 p.m., or a little after, the French were busily employed in advancing their zig-zag, and connecting the ambuscades, which they had taken from the Russians in front of their advanced work at the foot of the Mamelon-hill. Three companies of the 3rd Regiment of Zouaves, the regiment which lately suffered near the same spot, were defending the ambuscades, and some men of the 30th Regiment of the line were working under the direction of the Engineers. The evening had been clear, and the new moon and stars had given sufficient light to render visible objects within ordinary range, but the moon set early and the sky became clouded shortly after. Taking advantage of this darkness a Russian force advanced against the French. They seem to have formed behind the redoubt, and, dividing into two columns, to have come round the hill, both on the right and on the left, throwing out their skirmishers as they advanced. In this way they contrived to pass the ambuscades on either flank, keeping onward towards the main line of entrenchment about fifty yards further on. It was not until just as the Russians had reached the parapet of the trench, that the soldiers in the ambuscades found themselves surrounded. Contrary to their usual custom the Russians preserved the strictest silence, and it was only when they commenced the actual onslaught against the troops in the advanced work, and against those in the ambuscades, that they shouted their usual shrill hurrah. The men in the trench seem to have been taken completely by surprise, not having had any warning from their comrades who were working in the ambuscades. To effect their entrance on the French left of the trench, which still remains open near the edge of the ravine, the junction with the extreme right of the English advanced line of work not being yet accomplished, the Russians resorted to a stratagem employed once before by them with success. As they entered the trench the French soldiers started and were about to fire, when an officer advanced, and in a quiet undertone said, "Nous pas,—nous sommes des amis,—des Anglais," and the French officer then gave the order which prevented his men from at once firing and giving the alarm. The attack commenced on the right, the Russians jumping upon the parapet; but in a moment it was universal. The troops in the ambuscades found themselves cut off from the trench, and completely surrounded. The troops in the trench itself found themselves attacked by an overpowering force, and, keeping up a fire against their assailants, were at first compelled to retire. But the desperate struggle was at the ambuscades. The Zouaves fought like madmen, and numbers fell from the fire of their Minie, and from wounds inflicted by their bayonets and by blows from the butt-ends of their pieces, as they became closely pressed. It was only when they found all efforts unavailing against the powerful force arrayed against them on all sides,—when they found themselves destitute of all support from reinforcements from the works in their rear—that the Zouaves fell back, which they did fighting as they retired. A serious proportion of their small band fell killed or wounded. On reaching the trench they had still to fight for possession of the ground, but shortly after supports arrived and the Russians were driven from the work with great slaughter.

At first the attack was confined to the French works on the Mamelon-hill. There were 900 men in the corresponding advanced works on the English side, but as the entrenchments comprising the 2nd and 3rd parallels on Frenchman's-hill, and the batteries connected with them, extend over very long lines of ground, this force was very widely scattered. They consisted of troops from the 97th, 34th, 77th, 19th, and 90th Regiments, and were under the immediate order of Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment. When the attack on the French commenced, the fire from the men in the ambuscades against the Russians on their left flank fell thickly amongst the English on the extreme right of the third parallel. This end of the work, like that on the left of the French, was open, and separated by little more than the breadth of the ravine. The troops were therefore ordered to move a little higher up the entrenchment, in a direction toward the left. Some time elapsed after the fighting had become general in the French works, when some troops were observed moving along the English trench. As they had not come over the parapets from the other side, but had moved in a direction from the French work, it was at first taken for granted that these were French soldiers. The mistake was discovered, and our men were ordered to charge. At first sloping and moving quietly, they came upon the enemy almost unobserved; but when within a short distance they poured in a volley, gave an English hurrah, and charged. The Russians did not wait to see what a small number was coming down upon them, but clambering over the parapet and running along the trench towards the ravine, they fled in confusion. Captain the Hon. Carendish Browne, of the 7th Fusiliers, and Captain Hedley Vicars, of the 97th Regiment, appear to have particularly distinguished themselves by their gallantry. Captain Vicars, leading on some men of his regiment, chased the enemy over the parapet, and followed toward the ravine. His arm was elevated in the act of waving his sword, while he was turning to cheer on the men, when a ball struck him in the arm-pit, and he fell. He died on his way to camp, while being carried on a stretcher, either from hemorrhage or from the ball having penetrated the chest. Captain Browne was also killed, and his body was found to be penetrated by no less than four balls in the chest and two in other parts of the body. About the same time that some of the Russians entered the third parallel at the open and near the ravine another body contrived to get into the work by mounting over the parapet at some distance off on the left, at a spot from which the covering party had been drawn off for the purpose of defending the right. They also were quickly driven back. I have not heard our exact loss in accomplishing these objects, but about thirty-four wounded only have been brought into camp. Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, who commanded the covering party on Frenchman's-hill, is missing, and fears are entertained for his safety. Lieut. William Jordan, of the 34th Regiment, who had exchanged duty with another officer for the evening, was killed. Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, who for some time had command of the siege operations, and whose name is so completely associated with the works on Frenchman's-hill, and many of those now held by our allies on the right, was wounded severely, having been struck by two musket balls in the arm. The French loss is very much greater: as many as 150 killed, and nearly 400 wounded being named. As appears generally to happen, the chief loss was among the Zouaves. Some of the Imperial Guard, who were brought as a reinforcement, also suffered severely. Immense bodies of French troops moved towards the Mamelon after the attack, in the expectation that it would be renewed, but the troops remained within their respective lines for the remainder of the night. Lord Raglan was at the scene of contest at an early hour this morning.

Among the dead left in the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill is an officer who was supposed to be a Russian, but papers on his person lead to the supposition that he was a Greek in Russian pay. Three other bodies are recognised as being those of Armenians. The French also state that there were many Greeks fighting against them in their attack.

Soon after the opening of the fire upon the French works, a heavy cannonade was commenced against the line of defence of the Russians. The two new Russian batteries on the heights on the east side of Careening Bay—both of which are now fully armed—the Round Tower, and the Redan works replied, and in a short time the enemy discharged more shot and shell than they have done altogether for a week or ten days past. Rockets were also discharged against the town from the Victoria redoubt, and also from a new rocket battery on the left. The powerful glare of light, which illuminator for a long distance round, at the moment of starting of these missiles, exhibited strong bodies of the enemy on the summit of the Mamelon-hill, and a heavy fire of shell was thrown in that direction. Some buildings in the town were set on fire, and the wind, which was blowing strongly, together with a heavy shelling in the direction of the flames, prevented the fire from being extinguished until this morning.

During the last week a constant fire has been kept up against the Mamelon redoubt itself, both from the French batteries on the right and the English on the left. In spite of this cross fire, and of the regular approaches of the French who are working by zigzag up the hill, the Russians have contrived not only to hold, but also partly to arm the redoubt. The working parties must have suffered severely; for the fire, both from the French and English batteries has been exceedingly well directed, shells frequently falling in the very centre of the redoubt, and the round shot striking the half-finished parapets. Embrasures have been cut for eight guns. They are masked at present with gabions and faschines, but the dark colour of these temporary obstructions renders the opening in the parapet very obvious by contrast with the light coloured earth of the parapet itself. Though the skirmishes between the Russian riflemen and the French have been frequent, the former have not yet been forced to abandon the large upper ambuscade which they threw up, although more than once they have been compelled to quit it temporarily. There are also many small detached rifle pits, small covers of sand or stones for riflemen, scattered about the upper part of the hill. From a distance they appear like the little mounds of earth which are thrown up by some animal which is burrowing underground. For some days past it has been known that the Russians had field pieces in the redoubt, for its protection in case of attack. Two of these were brought out, and employed to discharge grape in the direction of the French line during the attack last night.

The fire from the riflemen has been occasionally annoying against the approach to our third parallel, part of which is enfilded from the gate on the Mamelon-hill, and cannot be protected by traverses, owing to its direction along the slope of the hill. A sergeant and private of the 7th Fusiliers were thus killed on the 20th instant. Singularly enough, though at the distance at least of 400 or 500 yards, they were both wounded mortally by the same rifle ball. The sergeant, who was in front, was struck first, in the forehead; and the ball passing out at the back of the head, wounded the private in the neck likewise. Both were found dead on the spot where they were observed to fall. Several others have been wounded by shots from the Russian riflemen on the Mamelon-hill; but their fire, especially from the larger ambuscade, or small redoubt, as it may be called, has now been silenced by two field pieces, which have been taken down to our advanced work.

Two of the 13-inch sea service mortars were opened on Frenchman's-hill against the town on the 21st inst. One experimental discharge only was made from each. The shells were carried to an amazing distance, and fell with admirable precision. The first was buried in the direction of the Admiralty buildings, and fell within the area inclosed by the three walls of a stately pile, not unlike the structure of Somerset-house in London. A cloud of dust rose in the air, but the spurious wing nearest to the line of defence prevented the extent of the mischief done by the shell from being observed. The next shell was thrown against some new works in course of construction to our left of the Malakhoff Tower-hill. It fell precisely in the spot aimed for. Immediately after the explosion, a crowd of working soldiers were observed running in all directions, and several wounded were seen to be carried toward the works immediately around the centre of the tower. The next day these mortars were again used, but the direction of the line of fire was changed, in accordance with directions from the Field-Marshal, it was understood, that the buildings in the town itself were not to be injured. No doubt Lord Raglan has good reasons for giving such an order, but a good deal of disappointment was expressed in consequence. The French do not appear to have any scruples of this nature.

Lord Raglan, attended by General Jones, commanding the Royal Engineers, has paid several visits to some new works in course of construction, and which will be speedily completed, in a very advanced position on our left attack. General Canrobert has

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passed some time only at the Victoria redoubt on the right, inspecting the progress of the works about the Mamelon-hill, and on more than one occasion he gone up to the advanced work itself.

There has been a court of inquiry into the circumstances attending the danger to which some naval officers uselessly exposed themselves the other day by advancing too far along the ravine between Greenhill and Frenchman's-hill, and the wound received by an officer on duty in the former position, while attempting to effect their escape from the fire of the Russian riflemen. The officer alluded to is Lieutenant George Mitchell, of the 57th Regiment. He received a rifle ball in the chest, and though still alive, there is scarcely any hope of recovery. He and the naval officers had to remain behind a slight shelter until dusk, when Captain Chawner, of the 77th Regiment, and a small party carrying a stretcher, succeeded in bringing him away. At the time they arrived at the spot a party of Russians were observed approaching with a similar object. The naval men had narrow escapes, one having had a button shot away from his coat, the other having had his cap perforated by a ball. The rumour still prevails in camp that Prince Menschikoff is dead, and also that a General of Engineers, wounded in the Mamelon redoubt, and the Admiral in command of the fleet, also wounded, are not expected to live.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

[FROM A SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY LAST.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, April 6.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its Enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, March 24, 1855.

My Lord,—On the morning of the 22nd the French troops in the advanced parallel moved forward, and drove the enemy out of the rifle pits in their immediate front, but nothing of any importance occurred during the day.

Early in the night, however, a serious attack was made upon the works of our allies in front of the Victoria redoubt, opposite the Malakhoff Tower.

The night was very dark, and the wind so high that the firing which took place, and which was very heavy, could scarcely be heard in the British camp; it is therefore difficult to speak with certainty of what occurred from anything that could be heard or observed at the moment.

It appears, however, that the Russians, after attacking the head of the sap which the French are carrying on towards the Mamelon, fell with two heavy masses on their new parallel, to the rear of which they succeeded in penetrating and momentarily possessing themselves of, after a gallant resistance on the part of our allies.

Having broken through, they passed along the parallel and in rear of it, until they came in contact with the troops stationed in our advanced parallel extending into the ravine, from the right of our advance, where it connects with the French trench.

The enemy was here met by detachments of the 77th and 97th Regiments, forming part of the guard of the trenches, who, although thus taken suddenly both in flank and rear, behaved with the utmost gallantry and coolness.

The detachments of the 97th, which was on the extreme right, and which, consequently, first came in contact with the enemy, repulsed the attack at the point of the bayonet.

They were led by Captain Vinare, who, unfortunately, lost his life on the occasion; and I am assured that nothing could be more distinguished than the gallantry and good example which he set to the detachment under his command.

The conduct of the detachment of the 77th was equally distinguished; and the firmness and promptitude with which the attack, in this part of our works, was met, were in the highest degree creditable to that regiment.

These troops were under the direction of Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, who was wounded on the occasion so severely, as for some time, I fear, to deprive the army of the benefit of his valuable services.

The attention of the troops in our advanced works having been by these transactions drawn to the right, the enemy took occasion to move upon, and succeeded in penetrating into, the left front of our right attack, near the battery where two 10-inch mortars have recently been placed. They advanced along the works until they were met by a detachment of the 7th and 34th Regiments, which had been at work in the neighbourhood, under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, who promptly made them stand to their arms, and led them with the greatest determination and steadiness against the enemy, who were speedily ejected from the works and fairly pitched over the parapet, with but little or no firing on our part.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of the troops on this occasion, and particularly of that of Lieutenant Marsh, Acting-Adjutant of the 33rd Regiment, whose services and activity throughout the night were very useful to him.

Captain the Hon. Cavendish Browne, of the 7th, and Lieutenant Jordan, of the 34th Regiment, were unfortunately killed in this attack, after displaying the most distinguished gallantry, and Lieutenant McHenry, of the former Regiment, was wounded, but I hope not very severely. Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, who commanded in the trenches, is, I regret to have to add, missing.

The French, in retiring from their advanced parallel upon their supports, speedily rallied, and fell upon the enemy, whom they repulsed with great loss, and followed so far up towards the Mamelon, that they were enabled to level and destroy nearly all the "embrasures," or "rifle embrasements," erected along their front.

I fear, however, that this success has not been accomplished without considerable loss on their part, although that of the enemy is much greater.

Yesterday the whole of the ground between the posts of the two armies was covered with their dead, amounting to several hundreds, besides those which they had undoubtedly carried off before daylight.

In the meanwhile the enemy in great numbers found their way into the advanced batteries on our extreme left, which are not yet armed, and momentarily got possession of them.

The working parties were, however, speedily collected and re-formed by Captain Chapman, of the 20th Regiment, Acting Engineer, and they at once drove the enemy out of the trenche with the utmost gallantry.

Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, who was superintending the works, unfortunately fell into the hands of the enemy.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 22nd, inclusive.

The wind is excessively high, but the weather is in other respects fine.—I have, &c. RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

THE SORTIE ON MARCH 22–23.

GENERAL CANROBERT'S ACCOUNT.

[FROM THE MONITEUR.]

PARIS, April 5.

The Marshal Minister of War has received this day from the General Commanding-in-Chief in the Crimea the following report, dated March 23:—

Monsieur le Maréchal,—We had last night a most hotly contested combat, one very glorious for our troops on our right attack, opposite the Malakhoff Tower. About 11 o'clock at night the enemy attempted a general sortie on this side, in which he appears to have employed no less than fifteen battalions, stated by the Russian prisoners to be each one thousand strong. These troops, divided into two columns, advanced in a body and with savage howlings attacked the head of the roadway we have formed in front of our parallel for reaching the ambuscades previously occupied by the enemy, and recalls which it is our intention to construct strongly one with another, so as to make of them a place d'armes. Repulsed three times and three times led back by their officers, the Russians were compelled to abandon their plan of occupying this point, which was defended by some companies of the 3rd Regiment of Zouaves, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Bazon. The combat there was obstinate and has cost us dear, but has inflicted on the enemy losses far greater than ours, and proportioned to the masses he brought up. The Colonel of the trench, Jamin, of the 1st Regiment of Zouaves, directed the efforts made at this spot, and fought personally with rare energy. He was covered with blood from two wounds which he received in the head, but which fortunately are not serious.

The efforts of the enemy, who could only pull down the still empty gabions, at this spot, being without effect, were next directed against the left of our parallel, towards the ravine of Karabelnaia, where he was warmly received by a fire of musketry, and was unable to penetrate. He then suddenly threw himself upon the right of the English parallel, contrived to cross the works, and found himself in the rear of our left, which for an instant was exposed to a murderous fire in reverse. General Autemarre, who commanded in the trench, made the necessary dispositions with his accustomed vigour and composure. The 4th battalion of infantry chasseurs, coming up to assist, was sent into the ravine, where it threw itself valiantly upon the enemy, who being himself exposed suffered considerable loss, and was repulsed to return no more.

Further to the left, the English, who had not been able to collect more forces than left them much inferior in number to the assailants, attacked the enemy with their wonted courage, and after a warm struggle, compelled him to retreat. Still further to the left, the English had been attacked by a sortie, having the appearance of a diversion, and which they very soon reckoned with.

This operation of the besieged has differed completely from all those which he has hitherto attempted against our works. In order to insure its success, and notwithstanding the strength of the garrison, considerable as that is, he brought up from without two regiments (eight battalions) of fresh troops (those of Dniepre and Ouglitch). It was a species of general assault against our lines of communication, and the combination appeared uncommonly well devised for obtaining a great result. The importance of this failure on the part of the besieged ought to be estimated by the greatness of the object he had in view. The prisoners we have made state that his loss has been enormous, and taking into account the masses he employed, we think that this combat, irregular as all nocturnal combats are, and the firing at which lasted several hours, must have cost him at least from 1,000 to 1,200 men. The ground in front of our parallels is strewed with the dead, and General Outer-Sacken has just demanded of us an armistice, which has been granted and fixed for to-morrow, in order that the last honours may be paid to the fallen.

Our own loss, of which General Bisquet has only been able as yet to send me an approximative estimate, is very sensible, and cannot be less than 300 or 320 killed and wounded. We have especially to regret the death of the Chef de Bataillon of Engineers, Dumas, a superior officer of great merit and promise, who fell gloriously. He was killed by bayonet stabs, after being already wounded at the head of the works of attack. You, marshal, knew and esteemed him; your regret will equal our own. The same fate has befallen the Chef de Bataillon Bazon, of the 3rd Regiment of Zouaves, who has disappeared, and who it is supposed was killed. I shall forward to you later a report in full of our loss.

I have nothing to add to what I have said in my previous despatches respecting the sanitary state of the troops. It is satisfactory.

I am informed that many families, swayed by preconceived ideas perfectly legitimate in themselves, are astonished that no exchange of prisoners has yet taken place in the Crimea, and that they address to you on this subject complaints and urgent entreaties. That may be presumed at least from the great number of private letters that have been received here. On this point I can but reply, that, in concert with Lord Raglan, I wrote about it to the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army in the month of January last. Prince Menschikoff answered shortly after that he was going to refer it to his government, and that its decision should be subsequently made known to us. Thus the matter rests for the present, and I do not think it becomes us to break a silence that they seem disposed to maintain.

Deign to accept, Monsieur le Maréchal, the homage of my respectful devotion.

The General-in-Chief,
CANROBERT.

Despatch from Gen. Canrobert.

REGIMENTAL SURGEONS IN THE ARMY OF THE EAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

Camp above Sebastopol, March 16.

SIR,—I was surprised to read in the reports of the debates in the House of Commons, published in the *Daily News* of Feb. 20, that Mr. Layard had stated there was a medical officer at Balaklava who had refused admittance into his hospital a marine labouring under cholera, and that this act of inhuman cruelty was repeated at another military hospital, and the patient eventually left on the shore to die. But I was still more surprised to read Mr. Layard's statement that this case had been brought to the notice of Lord Raglan, and without any apparent result, from motives of policy. Not even a reprimand is alluded to for conduct that ought to have been followed by little less than removal from the corps to which he had brought so much discredit. Mr. Layard did not mention that he saw this happen; and I have no doubt, from his active disposition, that, had he seen it, he would not have permitted the marine to die unheeded on the shore. I am therefore inclined to believe that the story was told to Mr. Layard, and if properly investigated, that it would be found like many other such stories, very much exaggerated, if at all true. But, if true, it ought to be known who the surgeons alluded to are, and whether they are still permitted to have hospital charge. The credit of the army medical department demands an inquiry into so grave and public a charge of heartless barbarity on the part of some of its members. No wonder the anecdote created "sensation" in the house. I trust, however, it may not be believed unless more explicit details are given. Should there be medical officers so devoid of all good feeling and propriety as to have been guilty of the extreme neglect instanced, and their conduct have been brought to light, could it have remained known only to Mr. Layard's informants, to Mr. Layard, the Commander-in-Chief, and one or two others? The incident would have been talked of far and wide; yet no one to whom I have pointed out the subject ever heard of the story before.

But, setting all feeling and propriety on one side, it would be an act directly contrary to the regulations of the service. Mr. Layard implies that the patient was so neglected because he was a marine. He makes the medical officer say to whom he was first brought at the hospital—"I have nothing to do with him; he is a marine." The following is the rule of the service which bears on this subject: "Hospital Regulations, Art. 20.—Medical officers are, under the exercise of commanding officers, to take care of, and, if necessary, to receive into the regimental hospital, any soldiers or sailors who may be on sick furlough, or too far detached from their respective regiments or ships to be attended by their own medical officers." The medical officer was therefore in duty bound to admit the marine alluded to, subject only to the approval of the commandant.

I can hardly believe that Mr. Layard himself could give full credence to the story as he is reported to have related it, and I cannot help thinking that in telling it he was carried away by the impulse to assist the effort which the arguments of his speech were intended to produce on his audience. But in many other quarters there is a tendency to disparage the medical officers of the army, to saddle on them the evils which have happened, not only beyond their control, but even in spite of their repeated warnings and remonstrances. As surgeon of my regiment I have never been absent from it in Bulgaria or in the Crimea, and I do not speak of my own exertions. I know that in my division of the army the medical officers have been untiring in their labour to prevent and alleviate sickness. Sickness has prevailed to a fearful extent, but it has been owing to local circumstances and administrative deficiencies, not to absence of medical exertion or talent. Civil surgeons of the highest fame could not have prevented sickness from such causes. But the regimental surgeons have remained unnoticed, or noticed only in some remarks of general disapprobation of the department. Those who joined as assistant long after I had entered the service are now not only over my head as field officers, and stopping to higher positions, but are in possession of the more solid advantages of the pecuniary value attached to their increased rank. As a surgeon I came out, as a surgeon I shall return; and though I and the private had joined may have issued to us our Crimean medals together, there will be this difference—the remarks that have been made respecting the conduct of the class to which he belongs will make him wear his medal with pride and satisfaction; the remarks made respecting the conduct of my class will make me conceal mine in shame and disgust. Time will perhaps show whether this difference has been deserved.

A REGIMENTAL SURGEON.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, March 28.

The progress of the new Russian redoubt on the Mamelon hill in advance of the Malakhoff tower, and of the ambuscades and other works connected with this position, have been the chief objects of interest on the right attack since the last mail. Very strong reinforcements of the French went down on the evening of the 22nd inst., with the intention, it was generally understood, of making a regular attack on the Mamelon redoubt, and avenging the loss sustained in the affair the night before against the rifle-pits. These ambuscades were still in possession of the Russians. The force marched down amounted to thirteen or fourteen battalions, among others a battalion of the Imperial Guard, and a battalion from each of the three regiments of Zouaves. The battalion of the 3rd regiment of Zouaves, it was stated, was formed of volunteers, sent on making a severe return for the loss of their fallen comrades. One of the Zouave battalions was commanded by an officer who carried his left hand in a sling, while he managed his horse with his right hand. He had received an injury the night before from a rifle ball disabling three fingers. As this battalion went in front of the Light Division towards the Ouchakov ravine, all the men in the camp, as each regiment was successively passed, turned out and cheered the Zouaves. The Regimental Guards turned out, and gave the usual salutes. The salutations of "Bono Inglis," and "Bono Francis," which seems to have been adopted by the men as the French for Frenchmen, were frequently interchanged. But the night passed off without any general attack; there was nothing beyond the ordinary skirmishing near the ambuscades. The regiments of the Light Division were turned out about midnight, and moved forward, remaining under arms for two hours. This was in consequence of a body of the enemy showing itself near the head of the south harbour, with the seeming intention of advancing in the direction of the ravine. Although there was no fighting of importance, the working parties were not idle. The trench, which had been open on the right of the English attack, and on the left of the French, was carried on by the working parties of both the allied troops, and the connexion across the Ouchakov ravine completed. The French also advanced their zig-zag from the main line of trench in a direction up the Mamelon hill, with the object of taking the ambuscades in flank.

The present condition of the works on the Mamelon hill is this. In spite of the heavy cross-fire, the Russians have continued to make progress with the redoubt. Seven embrasures are cut, and three are several guns in position. The enemy have been throwing both shot and shell from this work, chiefly against the 21-gun battery on Frenchman's-hill, but without causing any damage. They still hold the rifle pits immediately in front of the French advanced trench. These, which were five in number, are now connected into one lines; and from either end a covered way has been commenced, leading up towards the redoubt on the top of the hill. The riflemen who enter the ambuscades during the night remain in them during the day, and are ever on the alert to aim against the slightest object showing itself within range, either near the trench in front or on Frenchman's hill. About half way up the hill is an ambuscade of large size, capable of holding a company, and strongly protected by gabions and sandbags. Southward, in various parts of the hill, are smaller pits, in which single riflemen find cover. A covered way has been begun from the ditch of the redoubt in a direction towards the ravine in rear of the ambuscades, about half-way between the advanced line of the French and the road which passes over the saddle between the Mamelon and Malakhoff hills. The enemy is also very actively engaged in making some new batteries in front of the Karabelnaia suburb. They are connected with the earthworks around the Malakhoff tower, and are stretching in a direction toward the Dockyard wall, and the batteries near the Admiralty buildings. Stones appear to have been taken from the ruin of the Malakhoff tower to be used in these works, and this building is fast disappearing. At present only one story of the tower is visible, and of this the whole of the wall which faced the English works is removed. The central column of the pile is therefore exposed to view, and on either side appears a dark arch, which really is a section of the staircase originally winding round the column, between it and the outer wall, and forming the means of ascent to the roof. These arches are often a subject of curiosity to persons coming up to the front, and their true nature can only be detected by observation with a good telescope, as the ruin is so involved in the earthworks which immediately surround it.

It has not been without considerable loss that the Russians have been able to advance their new works so much. The practice against them, both on the French and English side, has been very successful. Latterly the shells thrown from one of the large mortars on Frenchman's-hill have been less certain in their effects, frequently bursting in the air before the distance has been half accomplished. The engineer officers have complained that the fuzes employed have in many instances been so old as not to be depended upon. Some, it is stated, have been dated as far back as 1800, since which time they have been lying in store at Malta or elsewhere.

The Russians have lately adopted an imitation of the ball used in the Minié rifle. Many cartridges were found in the pouches of men killed on the night of the 22nd instant with the conical ball and iron cup at the base. The cup is very roughly made. There were also found cartridges containing two balls, connected with each other by a spiral of brass wire. The spiral, when closed, occupied a space of about two-thirds of an inch in length; when drawn out, was capable of being stretched to a length approaching to half a foot. This is a new device: it is the application of the chain-shot to small firearms.

On Saturday, the 24th instant, just at noon, the white flag suddenly waved from all the chief batteries and points of attack, French, English, and Russian. An armistice had been agreed upon for two hours to bury the dead, who were lying thickly scattered over the ground in front of the French and English advanced works. The scene which followed was most exciting and curious. From behind batteries and trenches, from behind heaps of stones, from out of holes and all kinds of shelter and hiding places, men all at once came forth. The ground occupied by the attacking forces, which, a few minutes before the flags of truce were shown, was a desert in respect to visible inhabitants, and not unlike a huge graveyard with its tenants buried in earthworks and excavations, became suddenly, as from a resurrection, swarming with companies and crowding with life and animation. Looking toward the Russian rifle-pits—the scene of so many and such bloody contests during the last few days—first a few heads appeared above the sand-bags lining their parapets, then, on either side, out stalked a number of grey long-coated figures, which seemed to stretch themselves up as men do who have been sitting for some time in a constrained posture. The French, too, who had been concealed and bending in their trenches scarcely fifty yards in front of the Russian ambuscades, raised themselves up; and there were living lines of men now standing where not a man dared show his head a few minutes before. On the walls of the batteries, and in the embrasures, groups stood surveying the hostile works and their defenders with an open-eyed parting curiosity, which they had only attempted to gratify before by stolen peeps and guarded glances. But the power of this situation soon ceased, and hustle and hasty movement took the place of dull and steady, but distant, examination. The telescope was closed; the most advanced and elevated spots from which a view of the town and its works could be obtained were hurriedly sought. The day was bright and clear, and favourable to the object. Over the dip of the hill, between the Malakhoff and Mamelon works, crowd after crowd of Russian soldiers came at the double, carrying stretchers. The French soldiers jumped over the sacques of their parapets, and soon [illegible] the rifle pits were seen masses of the grey great-coated troops, hardly distinguishable in colour from the rocky ground itself, and crowds of red-trowsered redoupped men, all mingling closely together. Down the broad stony sides of the open ground of Frenchman's-hill—no longer trooping along the covered ways—and along the Ouchakov ravine, rode or ran British officers and troops; and from the slopes on the right, crowned by the Victoria redoubt, and by regular 8-gun Lancaster battery, came the French. The neighbourhood of the rifle pits was the centre of interest, and there, in a short time, in addition to the grey and red, was seen the British scarlet. Officers who had never been in the first parallel, now seized the opportunity of visiting the most advanced works. Commissariat officers, civilians employed in various departments, and others whose duties do not lead them to take part in the siege operations—all who had heard of the armistice, and could find leisure, came to the front; and many of those who had been actively employed in the trenches—who had fought, but in the dark hours of the night—now came to survey and examine the scene of their own exploits. Active curiosity existed all; and there was a certain degree of excitement engendered by the mere fact of openly, in clear day, walking among the heavy shot and fragments of shell thickly strewed over the ground, and among the furrows in the earth recently ploughed up by their passage, with the consciousness that scarcely two hours would elapse when death, perhaps, would be the penalty of similar exposure. From the spot well known as the Picket House, on the top of Frenchman's-hill, to the most advanced trench near its foot, is about two miles, and the lines of covered way leading to the principal works, and the zig-zags connecting them, now extend to several miles in length. On Greenhill the fire of French and English on the right to a point overlooking the termination of the South Harbour. Here groups of men were collected, who had come from the battery and other works. They looked down upon the harbour itself, its banks, the battery drawn across the ravine at the head of the water, with its ditch and chevaux-de-frise in front, and upon the roofs of the houses which rise up the sloping sides of the valley on each side of the port, or, gleaming across the ravine, surveyed the whole of the works on their right. The Redan, the rifle works in front of our new trench on French-man's-hill, the batteries around the Malakhoff ruin, and the new works in progress connected with them on the side of the hill toward the arsenal, the Mamelon redoubt, all furnished their groups; while on the higher parts of the town, and at the corners of the white roads near the Admiralty buildings and dockyard wall, small knots of men were seen engaged in eternal observation. Many hundreds were at one time assembled at the foot of the Mamelon. Russian, French, and English officers were talking together, and the soldiers met on daily wore in building and making signs, mixing familiarly, and examining each other's dress and appointments. All, excepting officers, were unarmed. The language of the different nations were heard aloud, for Russian officers were calling out to their soldiers who were straying too far, and English and French officers were also giving their orders; while, as a substratum to these louder notes, was the confused buzz and hum of all the tongues commingled, swelling in crescendo or sinking in diminuendo, according to the changing movement of the crowd which formed them. A few bombs, and some navvy music, and the scene would have resembled a fair.

The officers of each of the contending nations kept a somewhat jealous eye that their antagonists did not advance too near their works, but the bounds on neither side were kept very strictly. Our soldiers assisted in carrying the corpses of the Russians from the front of the trench on Frenchman's-hill, and gave them over to the Russian officers who waited in a group with fatigue parties to receive them at the foot of a narrow road leading up from the ravine to the Malakhoff hill. In front of the French trenches the Russians had already collected in heaps during the night many of their dead, and had no doubt carried others away. About five hundred bodies had still to be removed. The number of French lying in front of their works was comparatively few. Some of the Russian soldiers who came upon Frenchman's-hill were noticed to collect the cartridges which had fallen and were scattered on the ground. The Russian officers appeared fine active men, and were remarkably civil and polite in their manner; but there was a want of intelligence in their soldiers, and, though they showed not the least want of confidence in our honour and their security, there was an amount of timid hesitation and downcast look never to be met with in the English or French private. The Russian soldiers invariably took off their caps when the English or French officers passed or addressed them, and seemed pleased at being noticed. Among the Russians assembled on the Mamelon-hill were several men in Albanian costume, and one of these spoke to some British officers in English. Perhaps he was some common sailor from one of the Ionian isles. The French say that many men in this costume fought against them in the night attack of the 22nd instant. The officer killed in our advanced trench on Frenchman's-hill the same night, supposed to be a Greek, wore the dress and arms of an Albanian. He was evidently a person of some pretension. His jacket and vest were highly embroidered, and the linen in ample folds of his short frock and his broad sash were of fine materials. He had thirty gold pieces in his purse, of which a soldier in the 95th Regiment became the lucky possessor. He it was who, with a pistol, inflicted the first wound received by Captain Browne, of the 7th Fusiliers, and who afterwards attempted to explode one of our magazines by firing a pistol into a barrel of gunpowder. He bore the marks of several old wounds. There was no clue to his rank or name, and his body, stripped of its ornaments, when carried to the Russians, was borne away without any indications of recognition. It was ascertained in conversation with the Russian officers, that Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 94th Regiment, who was supposed to have been killed, was a prisoner, but wounded in the wrist and leg. Captain Horace Montagu, of the Royal Regiment, who was reported missing, was found also to have been made a prisoner, but not to have been wounded. They stated that they had taken fifteen British prisoners in all on the night of the 22nd. These men fell into their hands in consequence of advancing too far toward the ravine when they drove the Russians back from our works. One of the Russian officers who spoke French fluently, asked, with a smile, how long we intended to stay in the Crimea. "Till Sebastopol is taken," was the reply. "In that case, you will have to wait all your lifetime," was the rejoinder.

As the time for the exploration of the truce approached, the more cautious visitors left for their respective camps; the men who had quitted the batteries began to return to their appointed places of duty; the guards and covering parties assembled in their trenches; the crowd near the Mamelon-hill dispersed into smaller groups; they in turn separated—those who remained talked, moving hastily toward the covered ways, to be ready to take advantage of their shelter in case of necessity, until none were left in view but a few still on duty about the dead, and some detached groups still lingering in sight near the works. These at last left; and when, after a short interval, the white flags were struck, the sharpshooters suddenly disappeared in their pits, the gunners behind their parapets, and each exposed position was again in all appearance clear of every object denoting life. But not a long time elapsed when the sharp report of the rifle, and the boom of the heavy gun, told that, though unseen, there were still occupants enough around. The meeting had broken up—the temporary friendliness had ceased—the weapons of war were resumed.

The following is an extract of a letter from a surgeon, dated Camp before Sebastopol, March 23:

"* * * I was up till half-past three this morning with wounded Frenchmen. The Zouaves will soon be exterminated at the rate they are being cut. Three night attacks are heard of already; three are always mistaken: last night the French on the left of their advanced works mistook Russians for English, and the English on the extreme right thought the Russians were French. Some fellows of the 97th, who brought in poor Captain Vince (since dead) would insist on telling me that the French had fired into our troops; the Russian dead in our trench is of course the strongest reply. A number of Greeks and Armenians fought with the Russians last night. The French killed a Greek officer whom they declare to be 7 feet high—a giant. There is now lying dead in our trench an officer, supposed at first to be a Russian, but his papers show him to be a Greek. He had 25 gold pieces on his person. The dead on the Mamelon hill are nearly as thick for about the fourth of an acre as they were at Inkermann. We have sorties and skirmishes every night, and I am kept constantly on the qui vive, being so near to the Mamelon attack.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 11.

The general bombardment of Sebastopol has not yet been renewed. Its probable date is still a subject of rumour and speculation, but, judging from the vast stores of ammunition which have been accumulated, and are still being carried to the batteries, both of the French and English attacks, it is intended to be undertaken very speedily. There is a prevailing impression that the opening has been delayed, pending some turn in the diplomatic negotiations in progress at Vienna. In the mean time, the Russians continue to strengthen their position, especially in the neighborhood of the Malakhoff Tower, and their new advanced works. They have completed an entrenchment from the Mamelon Redoubt down to the valley near Careening Bay on one side, on the other to the middle or Ouchakov ravine. This line nearly bisects the Mamelon-hill. The rifle pits close to the French line, have been connected and formed into a deep trench, and seven or eight other large redoubts have been thrown up on either side, stretching back in a direction towards the new line of entrenchment across the hill. A new line of work has also been commenced intermediate between these two entrenchments. The new rifle-pits on the right of the Russian position extend in a line nearly parallel with the direction of the middle ravine, and are close to the verge of the hill above it. They nearly correspond in direction with our new line on the opposite side of the ravine connected with the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill. A constant rifle fire is kept up between these two positions. Much execution must have been done against the enemy's riflemen by the fire of two field pieces which have been taken down to the advanced work and, directed against the embrasures. There have been scarcely any casualties on our side.

The new batteries on the Malakhoff Tower-hill are making progress. The enemy has lately constructed a two-mortar battery to the right of the Malakhoff works, the fire of which has been chiefly directed against the 21-gun battery on Frenchman's-hill. On our side, and on that of the Allies, great advance has been lately made; and when the general attack is renewed, the enemy will, in all probability, be as much surprised by the position as by the power of the new batteries. The fire from the Russian batteries has been much more active during the last few days than it had been for a week or ten days previously. There is now communication by electric telegraph between the right of the British attack and the head quarters of the Commander-in-Chief, and any important movement of the enemy is instantly announced by officers specially appointed to exercise constant observation over the works around Sebastopol and the army on the northern heights. Semaphores have also been erected along the whole line of the French and English position, so that the speedy transmission of intelligence is secured on all sides.

The health and condition of the troops in camp are now very favorable. The cases of fever are not unfrequent in the field hospitals, but they are not of a serious nature. Orders have been given to facilitate the observation and proceedings of the gentlemen sent from England on the sanitary commission. The state of the camp is every where much improved, especially in respect to all the minutor details. Limekilns have been made, and a supply of quicklime thus ensured for sanitary purposes. In some general matters more attention is still required than has hitherto been devoted to them. The supply of water is one of these; and now that the numbers of the army, and of those associated with it, are so greatly increased, it is more than ever a subject of importance. There cannot be a better example for illustrating the providence and care of our allies in the management of general matters in the field as compared with ourselves, than the attention paid by them to the economical preservation and cleanliness of the water employed for drinking purposes. Immediately below the extensive farm buildings which were converted into the residence and head-quarters of the field-marshal commanding, is a spring of very pure water. It issues from a rock in the side of the ravine, and with the exception of a small pool near to the spring, there was no arrangement for tanking the water when the house was taken possession of. No change was then made. The horses of the head-quarter establishment, and all who sought water—no inconsiderable number—went to the spring at its source, and much delay was caused by each waiting for his turn to be supplied. But the French cavalry came into the neighborhood, and the state of the water supply was soon altered: a conduit was carried from the spring, a series of wooden troughs placed across the ravine at a convenient height for horses to drink from, and the ground near was paved with round stones to give the animals a secure footing, and obviate the accumulation of mud. The water was thus obtained limpid and pure, and as a sentry was always put over the troughs for some time before the horses were brought to water to prevent it from being used by those not entitled to it, a good supply was ensured, and a number of horses enabled to drink at the same time without confusion or unnecessary delay. At other spots the French have sunk wells. I do not know any place about the English camp where similar precautions have been taken, although, as a sanitary measure, and for the sake of economy in time and labour, it might be naturally supposed that this would be one of the first objects attended to by the proper department. I will give another example, which has just occurred. There is a bountiful supply of good water in the ravine (the "left ravine"), which divides the camps of the 4th and Light Divisions. The Woronzoff-road to Sebastopol skirts the head of this ravine, on its east side, passes over the hill above by the ruined building commonly known as the Picket-house, and about a quarter of a mile further on descends, by a gradual slope into the ravine itself, to get into the town near the south harbour. Between the commencement of the ravine, and that part where the Woronzoff-road descends into it, the bottom is narrow, and for a considerable depth is filled with loose vegetable mould. The water, which flows from five distinct springs, four of which rise near to each other, has made a sinuous channel for itself, narrow at first and then widening to spread over the valley, until it again sinks below the superficial soil to find its way to the harbour water by an under-ground channel. I mention the nature of the soil to show how necessary was some provision against its being mixed with the water used for drinking purposes. The neighbourhood of a spring seems to have been one of the local circumstances which determined the settlement of the farms about the Chersonese plateau; there are some good wells in Balaklava, but none on the plateau itself. When the army took possession of this position, the upper part of the left ravine was occupied by a large vineyard, for which the rich mould and sheltered aspect seemed to be particularly fitted. The house, the remains of which have been turned into a residence for Lieutenant-General Sir G. Brown, was close by, there were fields and gardens, and, moreover, the water of which we are speaking, was prevented from running to waste by being collected into two large ponds, roughly banked in by stones and mud walls, but no doubt sufficiently secure for the limited demand of those days. There was also a dyke made to carry it without spreading through the plantation. The house soon disappeared for the sake of the timber, in place of the vine bushes are now rows of graves, the stone walls which separated the fields and gardens are nearly all levelled, and very early in the winter the protection made by the farmer for the preservation of the water in a great measure disappeared. When not hardened by frost or embedded in snow, all the ground for a wide distance round was a pool of mud. Horses and men seeking water, trod down the slight earth embankment of the dyke below the ponds, and the water spread over the ground and was lost. Still no arrangement was made for collecting or purifying the water in reservoirs. The only chance of getting water fit for use was at the source; and even then it was constantly muddy after rain, from passing through the alluvial soil. Much valuable time was lost. Things remained in this state until the last day of February, when a sentry was posted to keep distinct the water for cooking, and that for the horses, and to prevent washing except in the waste-way below the ponds. Shortly afterwards, some French regiments, forming part of the sixth division, encamped in rear of the British Fourth and Light Divisions, and they had to come to this ravine for water. The aspect of the place soon became changed, and for the better. They began by clearing out the canal through which the water from the springs first flows, and then paved it deeply with large hewn stones. From this they carried a tunnel, likewise floored with detached fragments of stone to act as a filterer and intercept the passage of twigs and filth, and covered it over with a roofing of large flat stones and earth. This tunnel was made to conduct to the upper of the two original reservoirs, this being not only at a higher level than the second pond below, but also out of the direct route along the ravine, and more easily kept in repair in consequence. They thoroughly cleaned out the reservoir, banked it up with a strong, high, and solid wall of stone and clay, and at a proper level at the lower end made a channel for the exit of the water, by means of an iron pipe. The water as it flows out is received into a simple wooden trough, placed at a convenient height on a stone wall. To complete the work, they have carried down to the trough a paved road, so that horses can drink pure water, return clean, and the accumulation of mud from the constant passing to and fro of the animals is prevented. Another tank is being excavated, to meet the increased demand, for in a short time the men and horses of nearly the whole of three British and one French Division, will depend upon these springs for their supply of water. Already two regiments of the 2nd Division, the 41st and 47th, have moved down from the right at Inkermann; and the remaining regiments will shortly follow, and occupy the ground formerly occupied by the Naval Brigade, between the right of the 4th, and left of the Light Divisions. Considerable care and method will then be required to obtain and distribute the necessary supply of water without confusion.

There was no difficulty, no particular skill, not much labour, in what the French have already done in forming this reservoir and issue of clean water. All that was wanted was a directing head, and the same might have been done at the beginning of the winter. The only extraneous material was the iron pipe, and these pipes abound in the English camp, where they are chiefly employed for chimneys from the tent fireplaces. They were formerly employed by the Russians for aqueduct purposes. The lower pond the French seem to have left to us. One spring flows into this; but there is no paved way, no protection for filtration or cleanliness. It remains as it was four months ago. It is quite open at one end where the horses enter, walk into the water, and drink. Three paths or gullies down the side of the ravine dip towards the pond, and down these gullies comes the mud and enters also. A never-failing supply of mud is ensured for the reservoir by the horses going in and out; for the gullies lead upwards to part of the camp, so that some horses are continually supplying water from their dripping sides to make the mud, while others are as continually carrying it down to the water on their soiled feet and legs. This pool might readily be converted into a reservoir of clean water, and provision be made for supplying men and horses with a fair proportion. Some person do not hesitate to say that the horses are none the worse for having water moderately muddy—rather better, indeed, than otherwise—but, however wholesome it may be, it is quite evident it is not sufficiently so to counteract the causes, whatever their nature, which have led to nearly all the horses being out of condition and affected with skin disease, while that clean water is not unwholesome is sufficiently proved by the contrary condition, as a general rule, of the French horses. Our allies are very particular about the pure quality of the water: the English opinion and practice have manifestly been in favour of muddy water for the horses. We have held Balaklava for a long time now. A stream runs along the valley into the harbour, and there is a good spring by the roadside near the town. Hundreds of thirsty horses passed in and out of Balaklava every day during the winter; but who ever thought of putting up a trough or two for their accommodation? Truly, there are some things we may learn even from our Ottoman friends, and the one they take of their quadruped dependents is one.

Instances of sanitary neglect such as I have mentioned can only be remedied by that portion of the Staff whose province it is to superintend the general camp arrangements. As a general rule, order and cleanliness prevail in the camps of the British regimente taken separately to an extent unknown, perhaps, in any other army. Even the French, superior as are their administrative arrangements, may with advantage visit the English encampments, and gather a lesson or two in sanitary details. Indeed, it is altogether unaccountable, with such admitted superiority in everything connected with general management, there should yet coexist so much neglect of what common sense points out as to be necessary for salubrity, comfort, and decency in the domestic economy, as it may be termed, of the several regiments of our allies. The atmosphere in the neighborhood of a French regimental encampment becomes after a short time almost intolerable from want of common cleanliness in the habits of the men, and many matters are passed by unnoticed by the French officer which would be very offensive to the eye of an Englishman. This becomes a subject of importance in stationary camps such as that now before Sebastopol.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

KAIDKOI, MARCH 26.

The last few days have again been unproductive of events. In the afternoon of Saturday, the 24th inst., the French cavalry had races in front of Lord Raglan's head-quarters, and these races, which have collected a numerous and brilliant attendance from the two camps, passed off with the greatest éclat. On the same afternoon a truce of two hours was made with the town for the burying of those that had fallen in the late sorties. What numbers the Russians buried in their own part of the territory it is impossible to tell; our own fatigue parties buried 300 Russians and 40 English—the victims of the Russian sortie of the 22nd. The number of dead among the French is as usual a subject of much inquiry and curious speculation, but no authentic details are allowed to transpire. But what has transpired is a fact on which the French dwell with an honest and legitimate pride, namely, that at some distance from the other dead, there were found two Zouaves, surrounded by the corpses of six Russians, whom these two gallant fellows had managed to despatch before they died. Altogether the proportion of the killed of either party corroborates the opinion I expressed, and justifies the advice I gave the Russian Generals in my last letter. These sorties will not do with the French and English, who, in defiance of all the rules of war, persist in fighting, when it is obviously their duty to consider themselves defeated.

All Sunday night the firing in the front was extremely heavy, but the result the same as usual. Whatever is going on in in fact more skirmishing of the outposts, the firing on one another of advanced batteries, the pitching shells into rifle pits, and the making ravins against desirable positions. It is all preparation—preliminary, provisional fighting, but the great work has not yet commenced. And yet it is this we look to and hope for during the weary hours and days of these preparations.

For some days there has been a great stir in the Balaklava front. It is not yet exactly known whether Sir C. Campbell is acting on secret information received from the Russian camp, or indulging the wakefulness of his own nature, or whether it is his plan to get the troops into training for active operations. But certain it is that during the last few days the division in the Balaklava front has been turned out regularly between three and four o'clock in the morning. At that hour double-the-camp have sped in all directions, and from the backs of their horses held converse with officers commanding in encampments, whom they roused in their tents. And the trumpet and the bugle have sounded, the drums have echoed the note of alarm and instant preparation, and the discordant music of the Turks has risen up from the foot of the hill, where the followers of the Prophet eat their pilaff and smoke their pipes in the rear of Sir Colin Campbell's camp. The batteries have been all on the alert; the cavalry, drawn up in dense columns, have been seen looming on the far distance of their camp; and the Guards, descending from their hills near Balaklava, have marched up to support the Highland brigade in the task of standing under arms for a couple of hours. That task performed, our gallant troops imitate the example of that King of France of whom nursery history records that he marched up a hill, and, having accomplished that feat, marched down again. It is now generally understood that the manœuvre is a measure of discipline rather than of precaution, for the best informed assure me that the Balaklava front will in future turn out every morning one hour before daylight. The troops so mustering have a great desire to advance into the plain and reconnoitre the Russian position, and really there appears no reason why we should any longer be left in uncertainty of the exact strength of the force before us. If turning out early in the morning be a good thing for the spirit and discipline of the soldiers, surely a march across the hills and a little skirmishing would still further raise their spirits, confirm their discipline, and improve their health by far more than standing under arms during the cold, misty, and fever-ric hour of a Crimean sun-rise. Thus do they say and sing in the camp. It is always the old story: the war-horse champing the bit and pawing the ground. Besides there are many fresh troops out who sicken at the mention of Alma, Balaklava, and Inkermann, but long to have a

Balaklava or Inkermann of their own.

Shall I again make your readers smile at the enthusiasm with which I need speak of the progress of the railroad? They would not smile if they could but know what promises to us that railroad holds forth—how we rejoice in every foot of ground it conquers for itself. The transport within the lines—independent of mangy bât horses and half-breathed Orientals!—none but those who have passed the last six months in the camp can realise the luxury of that idea. Wherever the army moves out of the camp, it will be seen what the land transport corps can do for us. At present I hear a measure in contemplation tending to give that valuable and untried corps plenty to do, and this measure I mention because it appears, to say the least, precipitate, unreasonable, and premature. It is intended to withdraw the forage granted to regimental officers for the maintenance of their bât horses, and entrust the transport of officers' baggage to the land transport corps. To deny the feasibility of this plan at a future period would be as hasty and premature as the approving it at the present time. Let the land transport corps first show what they can do; let them get into working order; let them try their men and their organisation before you meddle with an arrangement which has hitherto proved unobjectionable, and which, to all intents and purposes, has worked well. Unless experience has shown that you are perfectly able to perform the service, do not take the means of performance out of the hands of those who have hitherto done extremely well for themselves. The experience of this campaign is not calculated to engender much confidence in the effectiveness, the order, and punctuality of public conveyance. Obvious as men are in a campaign, very few have as yet forgotten the disorders, the delays, the loss of baggage, in the passage from Varna to Balaklava. If the forage for the bât horses of the regimental officers is withdrawn, it is not optional whether or not or what part of their baggage they will confide to the land transport corps for conveyance. Forage is hardly ever to be bought in a camp—it is perfectly unattainable when a detachment is on the march. This is not said in disparagement of the corps I have mentioned, which I find will in cases to come extend its operations even beyond the limits of the ideas of those rash men who now seek to overburden its new and untried capacities.

KADIKOI, March 30.

On Monday evening, the 26th inst., the Balaklava front was alarmed by the five of small arms, which, at a distance, sounded like an engagement between two pickets. The firing—about 20 shots—was heard a good way in the rear, and the Guards' detachment at Kazatch turned out, and remained a considerable time under arms. As the front it became soon known that the firing was not, as had at first been surmised, produced by a hostile encounter of pickets in the plain, but that a party of Turkish Asshagees, in the heart of the camp, had, for reasons best known to themselves, thought proper to quarrel, and to settle the dispute by the discharge of those long and breakbobbed pistols which those Orientals carry in their very dirty belts. The firing, though it lasted but a short time, was very effective, and indeed it could not be otherwise, when the muzzles of the pistols were held within a few inches of the persons who were to be favoured with their contents. When the Guards interfered, six Turks were found dead or dying, others were grievously wounded. The survivors have been taken to Balaklava, where the Provost Marshal has given them up to a bimbashi who performs the functions of a *Grand Prevot* for the benefit of the refractory and vicious among the only true believers. At the same time, an order has been issued to disarm the Turkish non-combatants attached to the army—a judicious measure, and one which cannot fail to have a salutary influence on the safety of the camp.

On Tuesday evening the firing in the Sebastopol front was heavy, but the cannonade presented no extraordinary features. On Wednesday there were races in front of the Guards' camp at Kazatch. I mention them merely as passing, intending, in my next letter, to give a full and detailed account of a meeting which, when properly known, will call a blush of rivalry into the cheeks at Epsom, and cause even the Yorkshire races to hide their diminished heads.

Last night the firing in the Sebastopol front was again heavy, but no one wonders at that, considering that the French are still occupied with their preliminary arrangements at Inkermann, and that for their completion they want an additional quantity of ground, which they gain by feet and inches.

March, which came in as a lion, is not exactly going out as a lamb; but its exit certainly bears a resemblance to that of a very quiet animal. For the season the weather is splendid. None of those trembling, flooding, deluging rains which were announced, and which it now appears existed only in the muddled brains of the natives and the orthodox hearts of the Greeks, whose wish was father to the thought. March has been dry enough to satisfy the most fastidious taste, and our roads are as hard and compact as Arabagees and lovers of hand gallops can desire. Storms of wind we have had, especially at night, and very cold winds too, more particularly in the early part of the month. But almost each day has been an improvement on the previous one; the wind has lost its sharpness, if not its violence, and while at times the gusts sweep you all but off your legs, or off your horse, they do not chill you. The mornings and evenings are misty, but the noonday sun is oppressively hot, and gives us warning of the heat of the summer. Each hour of March sunshine (fully equal to the sunshine of May in Bulgaria) warns us there to order out cargoes of flannel coats and trousers, Irish poplins, brown hollands, glove-leather boots, and other articles of clothing, invented for the convenience of persons exposed to extreme heat. A speculative merchant in the sutlers' camp has sent home for a large quantity of Wenham lake ice, and untold numbers of bottles of ginger-beer and soda-water; but unless the speculator's ideas of the consumptive powers of the army are of the most extended description, I fear the supply will hardly meet the demand. For if the heats of March are a fair criterion of the heats of June, then will the army be subjected to a heat by far more intense, though certainly much less dangerous to health, than the heat of Devrea valley and hills. A fear has been expressed that the men will not be allowed to wear the white quilted shako covers, which the Bulgarian climate forced upon the coy martinetism of the Peninsular veterans. I believe that is an idle fear. The absurd objections to this necessary head covering were conquered through the force of circumstances, and, though they may still survive, they will not again dare to display their foolish faces to the light of day. The campaign, short as it has been, has justified all those reforms of costume and habits which were so urgently demanded and so reluctantly conceded at its commencement. The British soldier, emancipated from the trammels of the collar and stock, permitted to wear the beard God gave him, and to move about in his light and easy Russia leather boots, now that he is neither overworked nor underfed, looks a happy, strong, and prosperous creature. War is forming its own men, and the military education of the nation, so long neglected, is making rapid strides in that portion of Great Britain which

a present colonies in the Fairies
Chersonesus.

a live Shell.

GENERAL ORDER.—On the 19th of March, a hollow projectile, discharged by the enemy, having fallen in the midst of a group of men on guard, was on the point of exploding, when its splinters would infallibly have struck several of them; upon which the Fusilier Antony Devine, of the 31st Regiment of the Line, seized it with both hands, and threw it over the trench, behind which it exploded.

The General-in-Chief is happy in being able to honour this courageous act by awarding, in the name of the Emperor, the military medal to the Fusilier Devine.

General Head-quarters before Sebastopol, March 22, 1855. The General-in-Chief, CANROBERT.

THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, April 3.

There has not been any move of importance the last two or three days in the siege operations. The Russians continue to strengthen their position about the Mamelon and Malakoff works. They have mounted some more guns on the Mamelon redoubt. Our fire has been very destructive—the average wounded in this redoubt alone is supposed to be 50 daily. The day before yesterday a shell from the sailors' 68 pounder on Frenchman's Hill—"Jenny," as the blue-jackets call this gun—burst just through an embrasure, seemingly doubling a gun, and doing severe execution among some Russians standing close behind the parapet. One man was thrown up to an amazing height in the air, with his arms and legs extended, and fell again within the redoubt. The field-pieces brought down to the advanced work of the 21-gun battery have also appeared to act with great efficacy against the rifle-pits in front of the French line of breach. The Russians have now connected the whole of those immediately facing the French work into a deep and strong advanced work, and have now connected it or their right with a second line of breach about 30 yards behind it. They seem to be gradually working back a connected zigzag, which is ultimately to communicate with the redoubt on the top of the hill. The rifle-pits extending along the right and left flanks of what may now be termed the regular Russian advanced work on the Mamelon Hill severally unconnected with each other. The riflemen enter before daybreak, and remain within the rover till night. They never miss an opportunity against any unfortunate who may happen to expose himself, either in the trenches or on Frenchman's Hill. The Russian riflemen deserve great credit for the pertinacity with which they have held those almost isolated positions against the attacks of the French, and the constant fire from our guns. The enemy's works on the Mamelon Hill have been carried on by them notwithstanding the most disheartening cross-fences and under a continual and heavy fire, and the workmen deserve much praise for the way in which they have hitherto performed their task. The French are slowly sapping up, step by step; and in one spot the sap has been actually carried close to the convexity of one of the first made rifle-pits; so that little more than the respective parapets separate the combatants on either side. This close proximity must shortly lead to a more determined contest. There is now a very active musketry fire going on, as indeed there is every night in this position.

The general attack is still a matter talked of, not commenced. There are immense stores of ammunition in the batteries and in reserve, and many new guns and mortars ready to open fire; but other batteries in progress are still far off from completion, and there are yet many mortars still waiting to be brought to the front. The general attack can hardly be undertaken, according to the projected plans, for a week or ten days to come. A partial opening of the fire has been talked of, with a view to driving the enemy from the Mamelon Hill, and gaining possession of that position afterwards by a combined attack. All this, however, is surmise. But whatever the intended movements may be, the working parties are most actively engaged every night in forwarding the new works and batteries, and stores of gunpowder, shot, and shell, are continually being added to those already accumulated in the magazines. Every now and then rumours of a cessation of hostilities, and even of peace, spread through the camp, and there are not wanting some influential persons ready to assert that the new works will never be opened against Sebastopol. The mission of Sir John Burgoyne to Vienna, and his probable reports to Lord John Russell, are thought not unlikely to have a pacific tendency. Judging, however, from conversation with French officers, our allies do not seem to anticipate any such solution to the great contest as being very near at hand.

The weather has been very cold the last three days, and those who were led by the warm days in the beginning of March to suppose that the winter had wholly gone have been much mistaken. Ice was formed to the depth of an inch during last night on water left exposed to the air, and the higher ranges of distant mountains have again donned their white covering. With the cold temperature we have had a north wind; but there are now indications of a change, and should this occur, a difference of temperature will be the immediate result. The health of the troops continues very favourable.

There has been no repetition of the shelling from the Round Tower against the position of the Fourth Division camp. It is now supposed that the new Lime kiln erected there attracted the enemy's notice, and was mistaken for some important work connected with the siege operations.

Last night the musketry fire was sharper than usual in the advanced works, and for an hour and a half the cannonading was particularly vigorous on both sides. There was no frost last night, and this morning is fine and mild.

THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, April 7.

The siege works are making rapid progress, especially in the centre and on the right; and so close is becoming, day by day, the approximation between the lines of defence and attack throughout their whole extent, that either a halt or a contest will be very shortly inevitable. Each morning finds the approaches carried nearer to the fortifications, and at the same time some works thrown out by the enemy to meet or counteract them. In the course of these operations interruptions constantly occur on both sides. One working party making efforts to attain a certain point, hears in the darkness a working party of the enemy sapping up toward the same object, and an attempt is made to stop their progress; or, perhaps, the two parties actually meet, and a collision ensues. Sometimes an impediment thrown up on one side must be removed to enable the necessary progress to be made on the other side; sometimes a work made by the enemy is coveted by our engineers to be introduced into a work of their making, and an attempt follows to take it. In all such instances a struggle ensues, and as these operations are chiefly carried on under cover of the darkness, night-attacks are becoming more and more frequent the nearer the contending parties come to each other.

In the early part of the siege operations, when the attack was divided into two sections, that on the left being undertaken by the French, that on the right by the English, many circumstances concurred to enable our allies to advance their trenches with much greater rapidity than we could do. The westernmost of the several ravines which lead down to the south harbour then formed the line of demarcation between the French and English works. At first the French directed their approaches against the centre of the town, or southern extremity, being chiefly opposed by the guns of the Flagstaff Bastion and the Garden and Tower Batteries. They were also exposed to an oblique fire from the Redan and other works on the arsenal side of the south harbour. But from the superior numerical force available for these operations, and the undivided attention they were able from their position to give to them, as well as from the nature of the ground, not only their zig-zags of approach and parallels advanced with great rapidity in the main direction, but they also prolonged the attack to the left, until at last their trenches environed all that part of the town which looked toward the platean. The line of attack was then completed on this side from Quarantine Bay to the deep ravine separating the French and English attacks at a point a little south of the head of the Admiralty Harbour; and the parallels were so advanced that at some points they were separated from the enemy's works by scarcely more than fifty or eighty yards.

On the right the English undertook not only the attack against the line of defences surrounding the Arsenal and Admiralty yard and the whole Karabelnaia suburb, from the south harbour to Careening Bay, but also to guard the approaches to the heights overlooking the ravine leading from Careening Bay to the Inkermann valley and those above the north end of the Tchernaya valley. Commencing from the left of the English attack, Greenhill, which overlooks an extensive slope between the two principal ravines leading down to the south harbour, was armed by the works known, from the name of the engineer who superintended their execution, as Chapman's, or the Greenhill, batteries. On the right of this again, upon Frenchman's-hill, a slope of undulating land included between the more eastern of the two ravines last alluded to, and a winding ravine which also terminates in the valley of the south har-

bour, were placed the works known as Gordon's batteries. This ravine, curving round from the right, and forming in part of its course a separation between Frenchman's-hill and the Redan hill, where, however, it becomes very shallow, is known in the English camp as the "middle ravine," while that separating Frenchman's hill from Greenhill is called the "left ravine." Continuing our glance to the right, on the high ground between the middle ravine before named and another deep ravine leading down to Careening Bay, were some detached works, of which that known as the Right Lancaster, or five-gun battery, was the principal. The main ravine leading to Careening Bay, as it approaches its termination, becomes very deep, and its sides generally precipitous. This is usually spoken of as the right ravine. Numerous ravines of a secondary character enter and are lost in this ravine, some following the general direction of the main channel, others descending into it nearly at right angles. Beyond the right ravine, in the early part of the siege, no works of attack were undertaken; but, after the battle of Inkermann, the ground became better explored, and various works, both for defence and attack, were erected. The works of defence were undertaken conjointly by the French and English—the French taking the high ground to the right of the ravine called the Inkermann ravine, or the "Ravine des Zouaves," the English occupying the high ground to the left, and making both defensive works, and also some very important works of attack above the right ravine and toward the roadstead.

Such were the relative positions of the allies, when the ravages of sickness among the British troops were so extensive that their force became utterly inadequate to defend, much more to carry on, as circumstances required, the long lines of works from the south harbour to Inkermann. The Highland Brigade of the First Division had been drawn to Balaklava, and the Brigade of Guards, greatly diminished in strength, joined it subsequently. A new distribution of the siege labours took place. The French retained their left attack, and also undertook all that portion of the right attack beyond the right ravine or Careening Bay ravine. They also extended their army of observation along the right flank, so as to guard the approaches from the Inkermann valley. This arrangement has left the English troops free to direct all their energies on the works of what is now called the "centre attack," the works on Greenhill and Frenchman's-hill, and it is now generally acknowledged that this is the direction in which the principal attack against the fortress must be urged. The enemy also proves the great importance he attaches to this point by daily increasing and strengthening his defences on the Malakhoff and Redan hills, and extending them in every advantageous position around the arsenal.

The same remarkable energy which the Russian engineers exhibited on the left in throwing up works to meet the rapid advance of the French operations in that direction, in repairing those which were damaged, or replacing by new works those which were rendered untenable, is now actively displayed on the right. Old works are strengthened, new lines thrown up, fresh defences are advanced with wonderful determination and perseverance; while outside all, an army of riflemen announce themselves in pits, and occupy every available bit of cover, and with indefatigable alertness seek to protect each point of the fortifications from observation and approach. The enemy has advantages on the right to aid him in vigorously carrying on his works, many of which he did not possess to the same extent on the left. Guns, military stores, and munitions are close at hand to the works in progress. By means of the Admiralty Harbour, Dockyard Creek, and the Careening Port, his communications with the vessels engaged in the transport duties across the roadstead are facilitated. Working parties, reliefs, and reinforcements are more quickly obtained; for the Careening Harbour is the ordinary place of debarkation for the troops brought from the encampments on the other side of the roadstead.

The change in the distribution of the attack has led to new arrangements in the disposition of the British force. The Second Division, which had been encamped on the extreme right towards Inkermann, has been brought down to the centre, and is now encamped between the Light and Fourth Divisions. The regiments of this division assist those of the Light Division in the operations on Frenchman's-hill, while the Third and Fourth Divisions take the duties at Greenhill. The First Division remains under Sir Colin Campbell at Balaklava. There is a rumour that when the expected Scotch regiments arrive there will be a new formation of divisions; one division to consist of six Scotch regiments, and the Brigade of Guards to be associated with a Frasier Brigade from another division.

It is not easy to overrate the advantages which the besieged have gained for the present, by their success in establishing the two new redoubts on the east side of Careening-harbour, and the large fort which now crowns the Mamelon-hill in advance of the Malakhoff works. They have secured behind their line of defences the Careening port, which was previously much exposed, and toward which some of the new works on the right were fast advancing. They have established a further protection for the shipping.

By the large work on the Mamelon-hill they have increased materially the obstructions to be overcome on the occasion of an assault upon the Karabelnaia and its fortifications, and by its advanced position between the English works on Frenchman's-hill, and the works of the French beyond the right ravine, they have added to their means of annoyance, and interference with our operations. These ingredients are but temporary, however, and must yield, wherever the general attack takes place, to the tremendous weight of metal, and numerous lines of fire, which will be brought to bear against them, and, crowning all, to the determined courage of our troops.

Eleven embrasures are now made in the Mamelon redoubt, eight of these being in the face looking toward Frenchman's-hill. A very powerful mortar has been placed to form part of its armament, either of 10-inch or 12-inch calibre. Two 32-inch mortars have also been brought into position in a battery on the Malakhoff-hill. It was at one time supposed that the Russian garrison possessed only one of these large mortars—that which became familiar among the men under the sobriquet of "Whistling Dick." The parapets of the Redan batteries have been repaired, and considerably thickened. The covered communication between the new redoubts on the right of the Careening harbour and the Mamelon-hill redoubt is proceeding rapidly on the right, and another communication from the Mamelon, on the left, to connect it with the Redan batteries is also fast advancing towards completion. These communications cross the respective ravines. New batteries are in course of construction on the proper right of the Malakhoff hill, and the apparent intention is to connect these with the Redan batteries, so as to form a continuous line of armed earth-works between the two positions.

On our side the new works in front of what were the advanced works on Greenhill and Frenchman's-hill are making great progress. In spite of a heavy fire directed against them the working parties have made great advances during the last four or five nights. To impede the progress of the work on Frenchman's-hill the Russians opened a number of new rifle pits close to the trench, and on the 5th inst. they made a regular attack against it in force. The attack was made in the evening, before the moon rose, while it was yet dark. Captain Bale, of the 34th Regiment, on pushing some advanced sentries, discovered the approach of the Russians, and at once gave the alarm. The enemy were received with a gay fire, and, though they made a vigorous attack along the whole line of the new advanced work, were gallantly repulsed. In this affair Captain Bale had a finger shot off, and Captain Jones, of the 7th Royal Fusiliers, received a severe wound on the head from a stone or fragment of shell. One man was killed, and eighteen men, belonging to the 7th, 77th, 33rd, and 34th Regiments, were wounded. Colonel Yea was in command. This is the third wound Captain Jones of the 7th Fusiliers has received in the Crimea, having been struck once before in the trenches, and at Alma having received a dangerous wound in the face, for which he was a long time under treatment at Scutari.

In the course of the afternoon of the 4th instant two powerful shells were suddenly thrown from the Malakhoff works against the picket-house on the brow of Frenchman's hill. The enemy had observed a crowd of men and officers who had assembled there, and were watching the fire from the batteries. The first shell was thrown with admirable precision. It fell in the yard—a very small enclosure attached to the house, or, rather, the ruins of it—in which, at the time, a considerable number of French and English officers were standing in seeming security under the protection of one of the stone walls. There was no escape; but fortunately the shell had preserved sufficient forward momentum to cause it to ricochet out of the yard again, and over to the other side of the house. Here it burst, and a French soldier, who was standing near the English sentry, lost an arm by being struck with a fragment of it. A crowd quickly congregated around the wounded man, but were almost immediately dispersed by the second shell, which fell in the midst of them. The explosion did not take place for some moments, so that every one effected his escape, or, by lying flat on the ground, avoided receiving injury. No doubt the enemy were under the impression that great execution had been done, for they must have observed the rapid dispersion of the assembled groups; and, moreover, they may have noticed half-a-dozen horses scampering off, saddled, but riderless. These horses belonged to officers who had gone on in advance, and were being held by men who, when the shell fell in the midst of them, thought of little else but their own security, and left the sharpers to seek for theirs. This occurrence has brought forth a general order forbidding any one not on duty to go beyond the brow of the hill in this direction, so as to bring himself within observation of the town or its fortifications.

The sounds that used to be constantly heard from the independent rifle fire kept up at night in the French attack on the left, unless drowned by a stiff breeze, or, from time to time, the dull booming of the heavier guns, are now chiefly audible on the right. An interesting discharge of musketry is maintained by the French in their front trenches. At all hours of the night sudden small jets of flame may be seen as they jut out, here and there, from various points along their lines; and the crack of the rifle strikes the ear with more or less sharpness, according to the state of the atmosphere and direction of the wind. This popping fire seems to be a necessary ingredient in the composition of an advanced French work, when near to the enemy's position—so constant is it. At intervals there are regular volleys. For some time, perhaps, there is a succession of scattered single knocks, then follows a double rat-tat, then perhaps a running passage of a dozen notes, then the single taps are resumed, and so on through the night; for this music of the trenches never stops altogether. With British troops in a similar work, and under the same relations as regards the enemy in front, a very contrary practice is observed. This is strikingly illustrated at present on the Frenchman's-hill attack, where the English occupy a continuation of the advanced trench held by the allies on the right. On the English side, under ordinary circumstances, all is quiet and still as the night itself. The difference is so remarkable, that a casual observer might at first attribute it to neglect or carelessness on the one side, and active watchfulness on the other. This would not be the correct explanation. The English covering party guarding the trench is just as much on the alert as their sprightly neighbours; but they throw out sentries in front of the work, however close it may be, and the French do not. It was rather nervous work for the younger soldiers at first, to find themselves fifty, or a hundred, yards, on the wrong side of the protecting parapet and trench, isolated, and constantly apprehending the visit of a Russian bayonet or rifle ball. But they became used to it by degrees. Moreover, there sprung up a sort of understanding between the opponent sentries not to exchange shots with each other, but to reserve their ammunition until something more serious in the shape of an attack was intended, than knocking over a stray sentry or so. Indeed, so well is this understood, that a shot from an advanced sentry in front of an English trench causes immediate alarm, and every one in the work is on the alert at once. It is argued that an attack on the work itself is intended, or the sentry would have no cause to fire. On several occasions sentries and Russians have reached the parapet almost at the same moment. But however dark the night, and whatever the force of the enemy, there is always some notice given to the covering party in the trench, if the sentries are on the alert; for they have always time to fire before retreating. The French do not throw out sentries, but guard against an attack on the work by keeping up a continual fire from behind it, in the direction from which the enemy would have to come in order to assault it. It is on this account it not unfrequently happens that, the darker the night, the less visible the objects, the more active is the fusillade. This plan obviates all risk of sentries in front being cut off and surprised, but it causes the waste of a vast amount of ammunition. Shell is saved on our side.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, April 9.

The long-expected cannonade opened this morning before daybreak, and is still continuing. Heavy rain has been falling the last twenty-four hours, and the atmosphere is so obscured by mist and clouds that the effects of the fire are not visible. The fire is proceeding chiefly from the centre and right attacks; there does not appear to be more than the usual fire on the left. The Russians are not returning the cannonade with their former vigour. Scarcely one shot is returned from the Russian batteries for every twelve from the English batteries. Our fire is directed principally against the advanced line of Russian defences around the arsenal and Karabelnaia suburb; commencing from the two new redoubts on the right of Careening Bay, and following the line of the works to the south, or Admiralty Harbour. This comprehends the Lunette battery immediately above Careening Bay, on the left or west side; a new redoubt thrown up lately on the cliff above the roadstead, and still further to the left (land the last-named work; the Mamelon redoubt; and the Malakhoff, Redan, and Barrack batteries. The atmosphere becomes less overcast from time to time, but so dense a veil of smoke and vapour still hangs about the batteries that no details are distinguishable. The wind is blowing strongly from the south-west, so that the smoke is carried from the English towards the Russian batteries. It is also an advantage that the rain, which is sweeping by in heavy gusts, is beating against the backs of our gunners in the batteries, while the Russian artillerymen are compelled to face the storm.

It was only last evening known that the bombardment was to be actively renewed this day. The troops detached to guard the trenches were ordered to take their rations cooked with them, to save the exposure which would otherwise be incurred by men carrying them in the daytime. They will be less exposed than they were at the first attack on the fortifications, as the covered ways are now both more extensive, and, by being cut deeper, afford better protection. The ambulance vans have been ordered to wait for wounded in the several ravines; but the rain is now flowing down the ravines in torrents, and it is doubtful whether these heavy waggons will be able to make way along them. The quantity of rain fallen must have been very great, for the ground was deeply cleft and fissured from the long-continued drought, and must have absorbed a large quantity of moisture before allowing an overflow sufficient to form the deep streams now flowing down the narrow valleys leading to the south harbour and Careening Bay. It is intended, in case the number of wounded should exceed the limits of the accommodation afforded by the regimental field hospitals, to form a general hospital to receive them. The huts occupied by the 30th and 14th Regiments, in rear of the 4th Division, will be vacated for this purpose.

There was a thick fog on the nights of the 6th and 7th instant, and the troops in front were kept for some hours each night under arms. A body of Russian troops had been observed in the Tchernaya Valley, near to the opening in the mountains leading to Tchorgoun, and it appeared as if a force were assembling in that neighbourhood. A rumour was spread abroad that an attack on Balaklava was contemplated, but nothing unusual transpired.

The working parties of the several armies had continued busily employed up to the time of the re-opening of the fire from the batteries. The Russians had on one side, our left, of the Mamelon redoubt, converted the rifle pits flanking the line of the middle ravine into a deep trench, and completed a communication between it and the advanced trench close in front of the French line. The other end of this work was brought into communication with the covered way leading from the Mamelon redoubt towards the Redan batteries. On the other side, our right, of the Mamelon redoubt, they had deepened and extended the covered way towards the redoubts on the right above the Careening Bay ravine; and they were also completing the communication between this covered way and the right extremity of the advanced trench in front of the French line. The rifle pits thrown up at the foot of the Mamelon hill, and along its sides,

in succession, and at first view independent of each other, had thus been nearly completed into a regular advanced work, with connecting covered ways leading up to it e redoubt on the summit.

To a casual observer these rifle pits, or ambuscades, so constantly employed by the enemy, appear to be put at isolated spots without any particular relation to each other. A little further observation will show that this is not the case. They are constructed on scientific principles, and are placed in such a way as mutually to support each other. Thus on taking an advanced ambuscade, the captors generally find themselves exposed to a flanking fire from another on one side, or to a direct fire from one above; nor can the one in front be rendered tenable until its parapet is turned or possession is gained of all the rest. The Russians use these ambuscades very extensively, and their sharpshooters show themselves particularly quick and adroit in throwing them up. In the course of a few hours, on a favourable night, fresh ground will become covered over with what seem to be at a distance small hillocks. Behind each of these however is an excavation deep enough, with the aid of the earth thrown out, to cover one man, who generally contrives so to arrange an opening that he can use his rifle without himself being seen or exposed. If the ground is bad, or he is likely to be marked down while making his pit, he will carry with him as a protection a bag of earth or even straw. Perhaps a fosse is excavated large enough to protect a dozen or fifty men; it is then made with galleries, and edged and strengthened by sandbags, and has all the character of a miniature redoubt. The aim of the Russian sharpshooters is remarkably accurate, and a very small object, seen through the opening of an embrasure, or above a parapet, is almost a sure hit, with their needle rifles, up to four hundred yards or upwards. The Ottoman artillerymen at the late attack upon Eupatoria are said to have suffered very severely from the fire of the Russian sharpshooters. The obscurity of the night preceding the assault, and the absence of videttes or advanced sentries, enabled the Russian riflemen to throw up their ambuscades within a distance varying from fifty to a hundred yards from the batteries.

The Russians had thrown up several of these ambuscades of large size to meet the new works in course of extension from the advanced parallel on Frenchman's-hill. They have had for some time past two stone walls, one on the left, the other to the right of the verge of the hill overhanging the ravine, where it winds round between the Redan-hill and Frenchman's-hill, to connect itself with the valley of the south harbour. Behind these walls riflemen were constantly established. The walls themselves are strong and thick, with openings between the stones sufficiently wide to permit the riflemen both to watch our works in front, and to use their weapons, but without risk to themselves. It is in advance of these walls that the Russians have lately thrown up a certain number of ambuscades, five or six, to oppose our advance. From the right of the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill, not far from the bend where it turns to connect itself across the middle ravine with the French line, a branch trench had been worked forward as an approach to the third parallel, but the progress of the parallel itself at this end was for the present interrupted by the flanking fire from the enemy's riflemen on the Mamelon-hill. From near the centre of the advanced work had also been thrown forward another covered branch, or boyau, leading to a small mound, which, for the present, was employed to keep the Russian riflemen in check. From the left of this mound a part of the parallel was being extended towards the left ravine, and immediately in front of this line the Russian riflemen threw up some ambuscades, with a view to impede its progress. At the same time a zig-zag approach was forwarded from the extreme left of the advanced work, to meet the parallel when sufficiently prolonged. But to effect this union it was necessary to occupy one of the Russian ambuscades which had been thrown up almost in the line of the intended work. This was undertaken in the course of the night, a short time prior to the re-opening of the fire of the heavy guns, and, after a sharp conflict of musketry, the Colonel of the enemy was effected. The expulsion of the sharpshooters from this pit was an advantage gained, inasmuch as it protected the artillerymen in a new eight-gun battery, opened for the first time, and situated in rear of this end of the advanced work, from the annoyance to which they would otherwise have been exposed.

While the English were thus advancing their position towards the Redan battery on the left, the French were sapping up in several directions towards the Mamelon and Malakhoff works. They had carried on a zig-zag along the middle ravine, extending it from that part where their advanced trench was connected with the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill. This zig-zag would shortly have enabled them to take the Russian advanced trench in reverse, and would moreover be made to communicate with our new parallel. They had also extended their sap considerably on the height above the Careening Bay ravine, in a direction toward the more advanced of the two Russian redoubts in that position.

The battery on Gravehill had also been considerably advanced, and a new battery constructed close to the site of the ambuscades which were known under the name, from their shape, of the "Ovens." Both on Gravehill and Frenchman's-hill the old batteries had been strengthened by the addition of powerful mortar batteries, and guns of heavier metal than had previously been employed in them. Some of the 13-inch mortars had also been placed in convenient positions, above the old batteries, on each attack. Should it be considered advisable for a combined bombardment to be made by both the French and English batteries, it is calculated that no less than one hundred and twenty mortars of large calibre, twenty-eight being 13 inch, could be brought into action, and very little short of five hundred powerful guns. Such was the general condition of the siege works at the opening of the fire this morning.

The regimental of the Light Division held a court meeting on the 7th instant. An excellent course was prepared on some unoccupied ground about a mile in rear of the encampment, between the head-quarters of General Bosquet and the Woronzoff-road. The day was fine and bright, and the assemblage of French and English officers very numerous. Two ladies also graced the scene with their presence, representatives of the fair sex from each side of "La Manche," and each, of course, the object of marked attention. Everything would have gone off favourably but for an accident in one race, which threatened to be attended with very serious results to two officers—Captain Stoffner, of the 34th Regiment, and Captain Thomas, of the Royal Artillery. In taking a leap at a stone wall their horses missed, and horses and riders fell confusedly together. The occurrence caused much alarm, for it was at first reported that both officers had received internal injuries that were likely to prove fatal. This turns out, happily, not to be the case; although very considerably contused, they are not likely to suffer from the effects of the accident beyond a few days.

Commissary-General Sir George Maclean has joined the army, and has been directed to take charge, under Commissary-General Filder, of the duties at Constantinople. He is also to have general superintendence of the stations on the Bosphorus and Dardanelles, and also at Smyrna.

10 p.m.—The night is dark and tempestuous; the wind continues to blow strongly from the south-west, and the rain, though less continuous, passes by in heavy fitful showers. No stars are visible. The fire from the batteries continues. Flashes of light from the guns, and the reflected glare in the sky, burst through the darkness at frequent intervals, and appear among the mists and clouds with the sudden effect and vividness of lightning; while the roar of the guns and the roll of the echoes among the mountains, not inaptly complete the illusion of an Alpine storm, by their close resemblance to the crash and ensuing sound of thunder. The horizontal flight through the air of some of the larger shot and shell, with their peculiar shrill rushing noise, contrasts strongly with the deep booming of the guns, and adds to the confusion of sounds which strike the ear. The report from each piece at the instant of explosion is so modified by the weight of metal, amount of charge, position, and distance, that no two sounds appear alike either in tone or intensity. Sometimes the explosion and discharge are made with such force that even at a considerable distance the concussion of the air affects the spectator forcibly, and he experiences the sensation of having received a blow on the chest. The noise would be much increased if the wind blew from an opposite direction, even on these open heights: what must be the roar in the streets and buildings of the town below? The shells rise thickly and brightly from the English batteries, and in less number from the French works on the right, but become dimmer as they travel through the misty atmosphere towards the Russian side. The Russians are replying comparatively feebly. From the reports of the covering parties who have returned from their damp and dreary places of shelter in the trenches during the last 24 hours, our casualties as yet have been very few, while our

fire has been very effective, especially against the Malakhoff and Mamelon works. It is also said that the French have gained possession of the Russian trench immediately in front of their advanced line. We shall know more of this to-morrow. Report says, with what truth I am not aware, that our allies are to open a number of their new works to-morrow, and in turn relieve us of part of the fire against the enemy's works.

April 10.

The battering is continuing. New works have been opened by the French. The rain ceased early in the course of the night, and there is promise of a dry day. Our casualties are very few.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, April 6.

A very amusing scene, I understand, took place at the camp of the Royal Naval Brigade on Saturday morning last. An officer of the commissariat department arrived there with an order from Lord Raglan to have all the horses mustered for inspection, as many had died, and otherwise disappeared of late, off the strength of his establishment. The good-natured brigadier who commands the maritime camp, Capt. Stephen Lushington, immediately issued orders for sounding "the general assembly" of the cavalry of the naval brigade. In a moment the whole camp became filled with equine life, from the snorting steed who sniffed the keen morning air, and the hardy, enduring assault, to the drooping chargers, some of whom probably belonged to the horse artillery who fought at Inkermann, or to the six hundred who rode into and out of "the jaws of hell" at Balaklava. Some were claimed and taken away; others were not. But how came the men by all those horses? The different questions and answers were, I am told, very amusing. Sailors are fond of pets, and naturally kind-hearted. Some stated that they had rushed forward and arrested the farrier's uplifted arm, as he was about to terminate the lives of some. They led them to camp, where they succeeded in restoring suspended animation! Others had bought theirs for a bottle of grog, and some for a quid of tobacco; while some, finding the horses straying about, had led them home to take care of them. While on this subject, I cannot help observing that everyone remarks that the seamen, in their camp, are better off than the soldiers. Why should this be? simply because the men are handy and try to shift for themselves, and their officers of all grades—not trusting to the system of "reports"—look well after them. The seamen build cosy little cook-houses, get fires ready, and make pots boil; while our poor men, who never have been accustomed to do anything for themselves, seem listless and indifferent. They are now suffering from this system. Our seamen much resemble Frenchmen in their vivacity of manner and disposition, and in making the best of their situation. The consequence is, they are not suffering like the troops. A Frenchman will smell out of his tent, and in a few minutes will pick up a handful of herbs, with which he can make a very palatable and savoury dish. Those fellows can get a delicious repast ready, when our men would actually starve. It was only two days since I saw a couple of Frenchmen prepare a delicious salad. It was done thus. They picked up the young dandelion plants. The vinegar was prepared by exposing their ration of rum ordinaire to the sun, which converted it into vinegar; the young plants were cut up, and the vinegar and a little oil, which is part of their rations, were poured over all. This eaten with a little broiled or roast meat/as was most refreshing—or some such concoction.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, April 16.

I resume the narrative of some of the leading events connected with the siege operations during the last four days.

April 10.—The fire has been continued all day, and apparently with severe effect upon the Malakhoff battaries, and the Mamelon Redoubt. From the Malakhoff works the enemy have been replying with only four guns, and those at slow intervals. The Redan, Garden, and Barrack batteries have been more active, and also some of the batteries to the left of the town, the fire of which is directed against the French lines. It is doubtful whether the silence of the Malakhoff and Mamelon is attributable to injury done to the guns, to a desire to save ammunition, or to the abstraction of the artillerymen to defend some of the forts near the mouth of the roadstead. Their fire was observed to slacken soon after some of the leading ships of the fleet had quitted the neighbourhood of Kamiesch in advance in a direction towards Sebastopol. A number of artillerymen carrying sponges, rammers, &c., were subsequently observed on the north side moving towards the back of Fort Constantine. The report has been prevailing in our camp for some weeks past that there is a deficiency of gunpowder in the fortress, and that the Russians are looking with anxiety for convoys which are stated to be on their way with ammunition.

Our casualties have been remarkably few, and almost wholly confined to the men working the guns in the batteries. The Guards and covering parties find good shelter now in the trenches. Lieutenant James Sinclair, Royal Artillery, had his thigh broken by a fragment of shell, and was also hurt in the arm. There is no serious flesh wound, and the limb will no doubt be saved. Lieutenant Twyford, R.N., of the London, is reported killed; and Commander Lord John Hay to have been wounded at the same time in the face. The two officers were standing near to each other, and from the nature of the injury received by Lord John Hay it is supposed that Lieut. Twyford was driven forcibly against him when struck by the round shot. Lieutenant Armytage, of the Queen, is named as wounded. The number of sailors and artillerymen killed and wounded is less than might have been expected. The fire from the Russian guns has temporarily disabled one or two of our guns, but has done little mischief to the works, less indeed than was done by the continued rain of yesterday and the night previous. In this respect the Russian works must have suffered in a proportionate ratio. A few injuries have occurred from the balls of the Russian riflemen, who have been exceedingly active.

The report that the Russian rifle pits in front of the new branches of the advanced work had been carried and retained before the opening of the fire, is erroneous. The attempt was not made. It was reported that they would be attacked, and a sharp musketry fire which occurred about the time of the contemplated attack, was attributed in camp to the seizure of the pits. This fire took place, however, on the right of the advanced work, near to its connexion with the French line, where a slight sortie was made.

The bombardment has not seemed to be so vigorous and crushing as it was at the first opening on the 17th of October last. This is partly attributable to the far wider extent over which the works and batteries are now spread. At the same time only a certain number of the new guns in our batteries and those of the French have been as yet worked, and some of the new batteries have not yet opened their fire at all. The Russian fire has certainly been less heavy and continuous than it was on the occasion of the first attack.

The whole fleet advanced, assisted by numerous smaller steamers towing, from Kamiesch and Double Bay, early in the afternoon and moved in line towards Sebastopol. The Royal Albert was seen to be frequently signalling. It is generally believed that another attack is to be made by the ships on the forts at the entrance of the roadstead, or an entry into the harbour attempted in the course of the night. It seems more probable that the attack, whatever its nature, will be carried on simultaneously with the assault.

Although clouded there has been no rain to-day. Early in the morning the wind veered round to the northward, and has continued from that direction.

The day was followed by a sunset so glorious and grand that it attracted universal attention. The sun, which had been obscured all the afternoon by a canopy of dark grey clouds, about twenty minutes before its setting, emerged from behind this dense veil, and descended into an opening in the sky, bright and

clear, and free from all obstruction to the view. It was a long horizontal chasm, following the outline of the ocean; a space from which the clouds appeared to have been raised, like the partial lifting of a curtain, to display to the spectator another world beyond. No sooner had the sun entered this opening than the aspect of the whole scene changed. The landscape, as if by magic, seemed suddenly imbued with life and animation. The surface of the ocean brightened with a cheerful lustre, and at its margin the wall of cliffs and jutting promontories, which form the coast towards Kalamita Bay, glowed with a deep red colour. The Baidar mountains, and the broken ranges crowned far away by the lofty Chadir Dagh, reflected the most lovely hues, having a bright rose colour for the prevailing tint. In the foreground, all the irregularities of surface, all the inlets and deep bays in the rocks and of Sebastopol, and the salient points of the fortifications on its shores, were shown with wonderful distinctness by the contrast of intense lights and shadows of corresponding depth. The sides of the winding ravines, the batteries, the redoubts on the hills, the higher buildings of the town, more especially the metal domes of the large structures near the Admiralty Harbour, the white tents of the encampment on the north side of the roadstead above the site of the Ahlar ruins, the North Fort itself with its weary and intricate approaches—all stood forth with startling vividness. It had something of the effect produced by the sudden burst of day, which, almost without gradation, follows the night in certain regions of the tropics. The swelling globes and rapidly expanding volumes of smoke evolved from the batteries,—the fleecy clouds as they drifted away, the small cloudlets high in the air, with their loose vapory pendants, remnants of shells which have burst short of their mark,—became for a time dyed with the prevailing tint. On the left, the allied fleet of line-of-battle ships and steamers was majestically moving on in line toward the great object of attack. Seen from a distance, without any spread of canvas, their hulls darkened in shadow, and to all appearance creeping on but slowly, the ships made but little show of the energy and power with which they were invested; yet it was impossible to see them and not to think with emotion of the errand on which they were bound, and on some of its probable consequences.

Presently the sun altogether escaped from the line of cloud above, and shone forth in full blaze. The whole fleet became enveloped in a luminous haze, so radiant, that the ships themselves were almost lost to view. The landscape, far and wide, glowed and sparkled in the bright dazzling sunlight.

This did not remain long. The lower edge of the orb touched the horizon, and the pervading splendour became gradually lessened. The brilliant lights of the distant mountains, after frequent chameleon-like variations in hue, changed to a general purple bloom, the shadows spread, and the flashes of fire from the guns, though still faint, became more visible through the thick curls of smoke. The grey limestone quarries, and the fragments of rock scattered around, resumed their dead cold look. Distant objects became more obscure. The hulls of the ships of war loomed in dark shadow. The atmosphere and clouds around the western horizon alone retained their brightness as the sun fast disappeared.

Suddenly the last segment of the orb appeared to sink beyond the sea, and day was gone. In a short time scarcely a vestige remained of the magnificent spectacle that had just passed, but the partial colouring of some few clouds. A narrow band of light along the horizon marked the track by which the author of the charming vision had receded, and made the dark outline of the ocean more obvious to the eye. The distant hills faded back into dull indistinctness, the sky resumed its leaden hue, which the sea in turn reflected. The smoke from the batteries was as white as ever, and drifted lazily toward the coast, impelled by a slight breeze from the eastward. The air became chilly, and the gloom of darkness fell around like the shadow of a descending pall.

Still later, and the darting flames of the guns and their reflected light in the sky, the scattered brilliant glare at the starting of rockets and the red stream of sparks emitted in their course, the placid light of the shells rising high in the air or travelling along their course in beautiful curves, and a few fires scattered here and there among the camps, were the only objects to be seen throughout the whole expanse.

April 11.—A very formidable discharge of shells was continued all night against the Russian works. Some 13-inch mortars have been working with destructive effect against the barracks and other buildings in the Arsenal and Admiralty-yard. The French, on the right, have been keeping up a very heavy fire against the two new redoubts—called the Selenghinsk and Volhynia redoubts in General Osten-Sacken's reports—and have very considerably weakened their power of opposition. At the same time the enemy's batteries on the north side, at the verge of White Cliff, and in front of the West Inkermann Lighthouse, have plied their fire against the French works with considerable activity. The French on the left have caused great destruction to the Flagstaff and neighbouring batteries. The long line of the Redan battery has been knocked about and injured by the works on Greenhill and Frenchman's-hill, and some of its guns dismounted; but the fire from the other guns in this work, and from two works immediately in rear, has been maintained very pertinaciously. The Mamelon and Malakhoff works have continued to be remarkably silent, compared with what might be expected from their vast array of embrasures.

We have still reason to congratulate ourselves on the comparatively small number of casualties. In the naval brigade they amount now to 17 or 18 killed, and about 37 wounded. First Lieutenant Edward Luce, Royal Artillery, received severe injuries in both legs, and died shortly after arriving in camp. A wonderful escape occurred to-day in the Greenhill attack. Two sailors were in the act of running home the charge of a gun, when one of them perceived a shell coming toward the embrasure, and had barely time to clear on one side. The shell entered the muzzle of the gun the men had been engaged in loading, remained for a few seconds, and then exploded. The muzzle of the gun was torn off and carried away. One man only was disabled, and his injuries, though severe, are not likely to be fatal. The sailor who first saw the shell approaching was carried several yards by the force of the explosion, and, though his pea jacket and trousers were torn literally in shreds and he himself stunned for a time by the concussion, he escaped without any wound or other bodily injury, and was able to walk home. How his life was preserved is a marvel. The position of the Barrack battery is such that its guns can be fired, and its shots strike some parts of the Greenhill works, without the discharge of the guns being perceived at the points aimed to. The projectile can only be heard or seen when fairly on its way and near to the parapets.

Omer Pacha had an interview with Lord Raglan to-day at head-quarters. It is said that the Egyptian troops who have lately joined, and others expected, are to assist in the defensive operations around Balaklava.

A very large convoy was observed wending its way along the north side of the roadstead, coming in the direction of the road from Simpheropol. It consisted of a very long line of waggons drawn by two horses. About 130 of these vehicles were counted. The convoy descended toward the position of the encampment above the site of the Ahlar ruins. Do they bring ammunition, or simply provisions of food? That is a question which none of us are able to answer.

Dr. C. Macartney, surgeon of the 77th Regiment, died to-day in camp from erysipelas following a slight wound of the hand. It is supposed that it was poisoned in the course of a surgical operation. The officers and men of the regiment lament the loss of Dr. Macartney deeply, and speak of him in terms of affectionate regard. He zealously co-operated with Colonel Egerton, commanding the 77th, in meeting the exigencies which had to be encountered during the prevalence of disease in Bulgaria and the trials of the past winter.

The day has been fine and more mild. There was mist, and also some rain, early in the morning, but it cleared away, and the day became bright. The wind is again southerly.

April 12.—The Russians made an energetic sortie against the French on the left last night, but were repulsed with considerable loss. The fire of musketry was very sharp for a quarter of an hour or upwards. They also advanced twice against the new approaches in front of the foremost parallel on Frenchman's-hill, but finding on each occasion that the sentries were on the alert, contented themselves with firing a volley, and retired. Our troops were quietly reserving their fire for the nearer approach of the enemy, but the opportunity was not given, and the darkness favoured their retreat. The Russians not unfrequently advance at night for purposes of observation. They come forward stealthily, and seen seldom to hazard an attack if they find due preparation made.

The fire from the batteries has preserved its full energy. On the side of the Russians the discharge has been more continuous, and the number of guns opened has been apparently increased. An earth battery in the rear of the Redan has kept up a heavy fire. The Redan itself has received considerable damage; on one side can be seen an opening where two of the embrasures have been brought into one aperture. Although the fire from the works round the Malakhoff hill continues very slack, they almost invariably reply immediately after a shot or shell has been directed against them. The close batteries of the French are committing great havoc on their side of the town. The Russians appear to be employed in constructing some work immediately in rear of the Mamelon redoubt.

Captain St. John Crofton, of the Royal Engineers, received a very severe wound in the leg, his thigh being broken, by a shell in the 21-gun battery. Lieutenant Douglas, R.N., of the Queen, is reported killed.

A new battery was opened to-day in the situation, known since the successful attack upon the position, under Lieut. Tryon, as "The Ovens." A few of the guns only were brought into use. The trial of this battery was experimental, and for certain engineering reasons, it was again closed after a limited number of rounds had been fired.

There was no movement on the part of the fleet.

Scaling ladders are being taken to the front.

Towards evening the wind blew very strongly from the south-east; and there were occasional squally showers. A very constant fire of shells was poured into the town and fortifications from the siege batteries.

April 13.—The fire has been continued without intermission, from the siege batteries, the whole day. No change has taken place in the character of the enemy's fire. On all sides the impression is, that the Russian works have been considerably disabled, but evidence is wanting of the extent of mischief done to them. Of the line of works east of the south harbour, the Redan has been and is still the most active. Our casualties have been very few. A sergeant and small party of men of the Rifle Brigade who were employed as sharpshooters on the left attack against the artillerymen of the enemy, were injured, it would appear, from want of sufficient cover in the position which they occupied. The sandbanks behind which they were sheltered was sufficiently strong to withstand musketry, but the Russians, finding themselves annoyed by our riflemen, brought a gun to bear upon it, and the first shot inflicted the mischief alluded to.

An unpleasant circumstance has occurred in one of the batteries. A young assistant-surgeon, lately arrived from England, hesitated several times in going to an artillery-man who had received a severe wound. A heavy fire of round shot was crossing the work at the time. The medical officer was reported, and has been placed under arrest.

The principal topic of conversation now is the assault. The scaling ladders have been carried to the front, and this and some other indications leave little doubt that an assault is contemplated. At what points will the assault be made? What are the chances of success? What the result, if the obstacles met with are at first insuperable? What part will the fleet take in the attack? Such are the questions mooted and discussed. Every one has made up his mind that there must be a large sacrifice of life; but the place is to be taken, and what advantages can arise from delay? The enemy has doubtless laid many snares; but mines and traps are not unfrequently as dangerous to those who lay them as to those for whose especial injury they are devised. He may make an obstinate resistance; but if vigorously assailed he will in all probability give way at some points, and what diversions may be intended, what movements may be going on actually, to attract the enemy's attention elsewhere, no one knows. It is to be regretted that the fire was opened on so unfavourable a day, as the continued rain damaged our works, and the mist prevented the gunners from taking so destructive an aim as they might otherwise have done: moreover, it is said, that the engineers were somewhat taken by surprise when the order for opening the batteries was given, as several works required completion. It is difficult to estimate correctly the damage done to the Russian batteries; it is very probably much greater that appears. The face and outline of earthworks exhibit so faintly the marks of the projectiles and are so readily repaired, that the mischief done beyond is kept concealed.

April 14.—Several attacks were made against the advanced works last night, and on each occasion there was a very sharp fire of musketry. The discharge of shells was continued all night. X

X This is continued at page 99.

(FROM LAST NIGHT'S SUPPLEMENT TO THE GAZETTE.)

WAR DEPARTMENT, April 26.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies addressed to his lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, April 14, 1855.

My Lord,—Since I wrote to your lordship on the 10th instant, a steady and heavy fire upon the works of the enemy has been maintained from all the batteries of the allies.

The fire of the British artillery, chiefly directed against the Garden Batteries, the Barrack Battery, the Redan, the Malakhoff Tower, and the Mamelon, has been most effective, and the enemy's works have suffered very considerably, although they have as usual made a good use of the night to repair damages, notwithstanding that the vertical fire has been continued throughout the twenty-four hours.

The practice both of the Naval Brigade and the Artillery has been excellent.

The casualties have not been very numerous, but the loss has fallen heavily upon the sailors, as your lordship will see by the accompanying returns, and the Royal Navy has to deplore the death of Lieut. Douglas, who had served with great ability and zeal from the commencement of the siege.

Lieutenants Urmston and D'Arth, Royal Navy, and Steele, Royal Marine Artillery, all valuable officers, have been wounded.

The Royal Artillery have also to lament the death of Lieutenant Luce, who was an officer of much promise; and Lieutenants Rimbair and L'Estrange are among the wounded. The former has sustained several severe injuries, but I am happy to add that there is every hope of his recovery. They are both highly meritorious officers.

Captain Crofton, of the Royal Engineers, who had in the course of the protracted operations before Sebastopol rendered most essential service, has also received a wound, which will, I fear, detain him from duty for a very considerable time.

Our batteries and parapets continue to stand remarkably well, notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather.

The enemy's fire has been comparatively slack, but the practice good, and, owing to their having ascertained the range of our batteries with great nicety, several guns have been disabled in both the right and left attacks.

Towards the Tchernaya nothing important has been observed, but small bodies of men, from 150 to 200, have been seen, with a heavy gun and some ordnance carriages, moving along the Inkermann heights towards Mackenzie's Farm-road, near which it had been placed in position.

Although the duties have been unusually severe and arduous, both by day and night, during the work, they have been carried out with the utmost cheerfulness and zeal, reflecting much credit both on officers and men.

The submarine telegraph has been safely brought to the Monastery from Cape Kalogra, and as soon as it is established at the former place the engineers will proceed to convey it from the latter to the immediate neighbourhood of Varna, where I hope it may be in a state to act in a week or ten days from this time.

The first Division of the 10th Hussars arrived this day at Balaklava.—I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Paramore, &c.

OUR ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

X. The part marked O on page 102 should have preceded the part of the journal.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, April 24.

No event of particular interest has occurred in the siege operations since the 20th instant. The fire from the batteries has continued slack, but changes of importance are being made in the disposition of the siege artillery preparatory to future movements. There is talk of a repetition of the bombardment very shortly; if this should take place the fire will be heavier, for many of the larger guns have been considerably advanced during the last few days. Several other engineering arrangements will be completed which were only in progress when the fire opened a fortnight ago. Perhaps a delay may take place until the railway shall have reached the two siege train depôts. The two branches, which diverge soon after the main line has got to the summit of the hill above the Col di Balaklava, are fast advancing towards those two points in rear of our left and right attacks. The requisite supplies of ammunition, the power of replacing guns which may happen to be disabled, and the carriage of munitions of war of all kinds will then be wonderfully facilitated. A rumour is also prevailing in camp that our allies will shortly have everything in train to ensure a successful assault on that part of the town and works which are chiefly exposed to their attack. The capture of the ambuscades in front of Frenchman's hill is enabling the engineers to advance still nearer to the Redan the sigzag from the left of the advanced work in that attack. On the right the French are gradually sapping up toward the Mamelon Redoubt; and, still further to the right, are extending their trenches towards the Russian redoubts on the west side of Careening Bay.

It may be as well to mention that the large work which is alluded to in the English and French despatches as the "Mamelon Redoubt," is called by the Russians the "Kamtschatka Redoubt." The "Korniloff Bastion," which is frequently referred to in the Russian despatches, appears to be the work immediately in front of the ruin of the old Round Tower, and now known as the Malakhoff batteries. The ravine which in the English camp is known as the "Middle Ravine," or sometimes the "Ouchakoi Ravine," is always spoken of as the "Karabelnaia" ravine in the French despatches. The French have given this name to it, because, in winding round to terminate in the valley of the south harbour, it passes by the Karabelnaia suburb of the city.

The following are notes of some of the circumstances which have taken place since the last mail left.

April 23.—The advanced rifle pit in front of our new zigzag on Frenchman's-hill—which the night before was abandoned, after being taken, on the enemy rebuilding in overwhelming force—was last night captured, and levelled to the ground. The Russians did not engage in a contest for its possession. They held it during the day, but must have hurriedly retired soon after dusk, as they omitted to carry off some of their arms and entrenching tools. The arms probably belonged to some of their comrades who had fallen the night before.

Some of the English soldiers guarding the advanced works volunteered in the morning to go at that time and take the ambuscade. They made their request known to the field-officer commanding in the advanced work, and he communicated with the general of the night attack on the subject. The latter did not think it prudent that the affair should be undertaken then, by daylight, and it was therefore deferred. The attempt would have been a bold one, and would no doubt have succeeded; but would very probably have been attended with unnecessary loss of life, from guns being brought to bear on the ambuscade after it had fallen into our possession.

Soon after dusk the parties told off to attack the ambuscade advanced. No fire was directed against them, and on entering the work they discovered the Russians had left it. Some muskets, and the bodies of two men who had been killed, were lying just within it. The working party at once set to work and levelled the parapet; for the pit was not so placed as to be brought within the line of trench, as had been the case with the pit taken by the 77th Regiment the night before.

The capture of these ambuscades has since been found of great value, not only on account of the removal of an impediment to the progress of our sap in this direction, and of the annoyance caused by the fire of the Russian riflemen against our artillerymen, but also on account of the opportunity it has afforded our men of intercepting the Russian artillerymen in the Redan. The ambuscade first taken, and now connected with our trench, at present forms a salient-face bastion, as it were, and from its loopholed wall, turned toward the enemy, our men discharge their Minié's with impunity. The work is so close to the Redan, and in such a position, that its guns cannot be sufficiently depressed so as to bear against it. Some men of the 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade have been also placed under cover on the opposite side of the left ravine—near to which, on the right, our zigzag is being formed—and have thus been brought to act in concert with the troops in the advanced trench on the right attack. The united fire of these two bodies has, for the present almost silenced the Redan's gunner could not show himself near any of the embrasures but he was at once marked down, and the Russian artillerymen were compelled to close these openings. In turn the enemy is constructing another formidable cover for his riflemen, taking advantage in its formation of a large quarry a short way below the abatis which extends in front of the battery above. This work threatens to be strong and formidable. It assumes at present the appearance which would be given by a number of crescent-shaped ambuscades joined together at the free extremities of their parapets. It will give cover to a large body of riflemen, who will have the opportunity of throwing out a diverging fire of very considerable range. The part of the Redan-hill on which it is placed has a steep incline, which will add to the difficulty of dislodging the enemy from this situation.

Colonel Egerton, Captain Lempriere, and four soldiers of the 77th Regiment, all of whom were killed in the first attack on the rifle-pits, were interred a little after 10 a.m. to-day. Lord Raglan, and a very numerous assemblage of staff and other officers, attended the funeral. They were buried on a gentle declivity, where the hill in front of the light division slopes down toward the left ravine. The wreath of road to Sebastopol skirts the burying-place, and a neatly cut vaulted stone marks the distance—five versts—from the city. The picket-house, which has been so often spoken of, is a little way on in front. Formerly the burials from this part of the camp took place in the low ground of the ravine itself, but many objections to this site were discovered, and the present cemetery was selected. The ground is not enclosed, but already a few unpretending head-stones tell the names of some of the English soldiers whose remains lie beneath. There are nearly a hundred graves here. Nothing can exceed in beauty the magnificent prospect which opens in the view at this point. It is here that, on ascending the hill from the plateau, a traveller approaching by the high road would first perceive the city and roadstead of Sebastopol. They lie stretched at the feet of the spectator, like a map spread out before him, while the hills on the north side and a vast expanse of ocean complete the picture. The Chersonese Cape and its lighthouse, the long line of ships off the coast, from the vessels

guarding Kamiesch to the sentry ships on watch before the mouth of the great harbour, the works of the French and those of our left attack are all visible at a glance. When there were vineyards and groves in the valleys, and flocks and birds grazing on the hills, and ships gliding in and out of the roadstead, the prospect must have been indeed charming—one of the finest in the world. Now, the serried lines dividing the besiegers and besieged—the barriers closing the harbour—the lifeless ships, prisoners in their own port—the ground furrowed by trenches in which the plough has had no part—the scattered encampments, French, English, and Russian—the wreaths of smoke from many batteries, and the booming of the guns—all these awaken far different emotions than would have been evoked by the more peaceful prospect of former days. Agriculture and the arts of peace have fled, and yielded place to rough war. And how was some of war's handiwork. Never were nobler hearts, never worthier soldiers, each in his several sphere of duty, than those who had been suddenly struck down in the midst of life and energy, and who are now finding their last resting-place on this spot. War engenders strange feelings, and works wonderful changes in man's nature: day after day the sudden transition from life to death is seen, until at last the sight fails to produce even a passing agitation in the spirit of the beholder; but there were few, among the many who testified by their presence to the worth of the dead, who were not pierced with deep emotion as they heard the solemn words of the sacred service—"dust to dust"—and who saw the grave cover all that remained of the gallant Colonel Egerton and the brave soldiers by his side.

Lord Raglan had signified, the day before, his intention of being present at the funeral. After its conclusion, the Field Marshal had an interview with Captain Gilby, the senior captain who acted under Colonel Egerton in the affair, and with Colonel Yea, who commanded in the advanced work on the same occasion, and then paid a visit to the hospital of the 77th Regiment. On the way, one of the regimental buglers, named M'Gill, was introduced to Lord Raglan's notice. This young soldier had particularly distinguished himself on the night of the attack. He was one of the first in the ambuscade, and having marked a Russian bugler there, he selected him for his antagonist, as if it were his particular province to attack a man of his own calling before any other. Although the Russian had the advantage in size, M'Gill knocked him over, and eventually succeeded in securing him as a prisoner. He also carried off his bugle as a prize; but after a hard struggle, for the Russian warmly contested his own right to this property. This trophy he had now the honour of exhibiting to Lord Raglan, and on being desired to sound some of the notes of the bugle, he at once blew the "advance." The instrument has a shrillier tone than the English bugle, is small and portable, and has engraved on the bell the Russian imperial arms. In the struggle with the Russian bugler M'Gill inflicted a severe sword wound on a Russian soldier who came to the rescue, and afterwards, having placed his prisoner in safe keeping, remained by his colonel's side till he fell.

After visiting each of the hospital tents and huts, and speaking to some of the wounded, Lord Raglan returned to head-quarters.

The cadet who was taken prisoner states that had we not taken the ambuscades, within a very short time they would have been joined together by the Russians themselves, and made to form part of a regular advanced trench to be connected with the works in rear.

The fire in the French batteries on the left has been very vigorous at intervals during the day. The Russians have replied with more energy than they have done for some time past.

A body of Turkish cavalry made a reconnaissance in the valley of Balaklava to-day. They moved in a direction towards Tchorgoun.

April 25.—There was rather more than the usual amount of fire last night, and in the early part of the morning. At mid-day an armistice was arranged, which lasted nearly two hours, for the purpose of burying the dead near the rifle pit. About thirty bodies, among them the body of an officer, lying close beneath our parapet, as if he had been killed in the act of mounting it, were removed by the enemy. The body of only one British soldier remained on the ground. The Russians had previously carried away a number of their fallen comrades, who had been killed a short distance from the work, during the night-time.

There has been a rumour going about the camp that another serious attack has been made against Eupatoria, and even that it has been taken. It is not unlikely that the Russians are concentrating a large force in the neighbourhood, and that this has given rise to the reports. Omer Pasha and a large body of Ottoman troops have proceeded there.

There were rains in the camp of the Third Division to-day.

The health of the troops continues favourable. Fever is less prevalent. The General Hospital for cases of wounds and injuries from the front has been opened in the rear of the Fourth Division, and several civil surgeons are in attendance there. Supplies of all kinds are abundant. The weather continues mild and dry.

It is related from the camp that the remarkable inactivity of the defenders of Sebastopol under the fire of the Allies on the 9th ult., the first day of the renewed general cannonade, a circumstance which was observed with wonder by the besiegers, is now traced to a plan of General Canu-Sacken, which our fire opened just in time to foil. The Russian general having learned that the garrison of Eupatoria had been reduced, by the departure of 15,000 Turkish troops under Omer Pacha, drew about the same number of men from Sebastopol, and marched to attack the former town. The result was, that when our general fire opened before Sebastopol, the garrison was not sufficiently numerous to man all the guns. Many persons in the camp believe that an assault might have been successfully attempted at this juncture; the besiegers, however, did not appear to become aware of their advantage until it had passed away, and until the roar of their artillery had recalled the Russian expedition back to the town, which it regained on the evening of the 10th ult.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, April 26.

The enemy, expelled from the two large rifle pits in front of our advanced works on Frenchman's-hill, is busily occupied in forming another obstacle to our advance toward the Redan, which threatens to be of a rather formidable character. It consists of an irregular work, at present only fitted for the cover of a body of riflemen, but not improbably intended to be armed with guns of position, as time and circumstances should permit. It is made so as to be connected by a covered way with other works in rear. The site of an old quarry has been taken advantage of in its construction, and both the excavations themselves and the loose stones scattered about have been turned to account by the Russian engineers and workmen.

The quarry alluded to is placed on the slope of the Redan-hill, below the line of abatis which stretches across it. It is about three hundred yards in front of the most advanced trench of the zigzag which has been prolonged from the left of our advanced work, or second parallel, on Frenchman's-hill. The slope of the land on which the quarry rests dips down on the left, towards the left ravine; in front, towards the shallow part of the middle ravine, near its termination, where it divides Frenchman's and the Redan hills from each other. The heaps of stones and earth which have been thrown out in excavating the quarry, and which lie spread out in heaps for a wide distance round, have long afforded cover for the Russian riflemen, who from this situation have fired upon our troops in the advanced works with tolerable security.

The general form of the new work is that of a crescent, and it is placed across the upper part of the quarry. It does not consist of a single line of work, but is composed of a series of smaller crescentic walls, each not unlike in shape an ordinary rifle-pit, joined together at the free extremities of their arcs. The parapets appear to be sand, and high. A covered way leads on the left down towards the left ravine, and there appears to be also another line of communication, more in rear, towards the suburb of small houses which are thickly spread between the earthworks of the Redan and the barrack battery. A trench is also being carried on from that part of the new work which faces our right. The position of this work is itself commanding, and it is not improbable that it is protected by some of the guns on the Malakhoff or Mamelon hills. The guns of the Redan cannot be sufficiently depressed to be brought to bear on it. Our zigzag, which is bearing towards the Redan, will ere long have reached the lowest level of Frenchman's-hill on the left, and will

then have to mount the rising ground in front. Before this can be done, however, the quarry must be "crowned," or the enemy within would almost walk down into our trenches. The men who took the rifle-pits a few nights since will not fail to take this also when the time comes; but the somewhat steep ascent of the hill, and the close proximity to other works in rear, will make the undertaking more arduous. It must be accomplished nevertheless, for the existence of the work will materially impede our progress, and would be still more detrimental if permitted to be armed and converted into a battery.

The enemy appear to have everywhere repaired the damage which was done to their works by the late fire from our batteries. On our side, it having been made evident that neither the proximity, nor the weight of metal, was sufficient to accomplish the desired object of silencing the hostile work, vigorous steps are being taken to remedy the deficiencies. Heavy guns, which were in the batteries of the first parallel, are being removed into the advanced work. Other batteries are being thrown up still further in front. Batteries which at the first bombardment were armed with 24-pounders, replaced at the late fire by 32-pounders, will now be wholly armed with 68-pounders. The late fire has shown, too, where other batteries were required, and some of these are already completed and armed, while others are in progress. The French have also thrown up a new battery on the right, and have added generally to the power of their works.

As to the events going on around us, away from this south-western angle of the peninsula to which we are for the present limited, very little is known in camp beyond mere rumours. It is stated that when Omer Pacha arrived at Eupatoria, he found, on making a reconnaissance, all the reports which had reached him respecting the strength of the enemy in that direction greatly exaggerated. For almost all the details of transactions on the shores of the Black Sea, even at so short a distance as Eupatoria, however, we depend equally with the people in England on the published letters of correspondents;—the only difference being that the public at home are in possession of the facts of such occurrences about a fortnight before we are.

The incidents connected with the siege operations have hardly been of sufficient interest during the last week to call for a daily register of them.

On the evening of the 24th instant a very sharp and prolonged musketry fire on the left announced that the French were hotly engaged with the enemy. It was sustained for nearly two hours, between ten and twelve o'clock, and seemed to be subsequently renewed about 2 a.m. According to the reports of the French this fire was the result of an attack against some Russian ambuscades immediately in front of the Flagstaff Bastion. After a sharp contest the French drove back the enemy with great slaughter, and obtained possession of the rifle pits: but subsequently the Russians returned in overpowering force, and compelled the parties holding the pits to fall back again upon their own lines. The next night the Russians contrived to raise two other ambuscades in this situation—one on each side of those which previously existed. On the night of the 26th the Russians made a sortie against the French on the right, but were prevented from doing any injury to the works, and, moreover, suffered severely on the occasion.

New arrangements have been made with the Russian commander-in-chief respecting short truces for the purpose of burying the dead in front of the respective lines. The plan for some time past has been the following: When the truce was asked for on either side, and agreed to, a certain time was fixed at which it was to commence, and its duration defined. Notice was also given on both sides along the whole line, so that there might be a total cessation of firing from all the batteries during the period of truce. This is now changed, and for the future there will be no necessity of communication on the subject. A flag of truce will be hoisted at 12 o'clock opposite to whatever portion it may be necessary to bury dead. Each party will bury the bodies nearest to them, whether belonging to their own nation or that of the enemy, and no communication is to be permitted to take place between the hostile troops while thus employed. The performance of these last rites at any one point is not to prevent the firing from being continued in other directions along the lines. As soon as the burials are completed, the white flag will be lowered, and the truce be at an end.

The Field-Marshal commanding the forces has granted a gratuity of 5l. each to Privates Samuel Evans, James Callaghan, and Thomas Keating, three soldiers of the 19th Regiment, for gallant conduct before the enemy. The two former of these soldiers were reported by Major-General Jones, commanding the Royal Engineers, as having particularly distinguished themselves by their coolness and courage, while repairing some embrasures in face of the enemy. A special report was made respecting Private Thomas Keating, for his bravery in remaining at a post in front of the advanced works, on the occasion of an alarm on the night of the 13th inst., although the other sentries on each side of him unnecessarily retired into the parallel. The gratuity was granted at the recommendation of General Sir George Brown, commanding the Light Division, &c.

Our casualties have been very few during the week. Captain King, of the Royal Engineers, who was wounded on the night of the 17th instant, died on the evening of the 22nd. He was much esteemed for his private worth and amiable qualities, as well as for his scientific attainments, and a large number of officers from all corps attended his funeral. Major Gordon, R.E., has sufficiently recovered from the effects of his wounds to be able to leave for a short cruise in order to re-establish his general health. Captain Owen and Lieutenant Baynes, of the Royal Engineers, both dangerously wounded on the night of the 19th inst., when the rifle pits before Frenchman's Hill were taken, are reported to be making favourable progress.

Mr. Fenton, the celebrated photographer, and his assistant have been actively employed in front of late. His duties in the British Museum will compel him to leave the Crimea in about three weeks, but such have been his zeal and energy, in spite of winter weather and occasionally of Russian missiles, that he will carry with him about eight hundred views of Sebastopol and its vicinity. They will no doubt be highly prized in England for their accuracy and beauty. The plates are of large size, and in some of them every window of the larger buildings in the town can be counted. Among the most interesting will be a panoramic sun-picture of the town and its fortifications, with the distant hills, taken from the old Russian redoubt, or, as it has been called since General Sir George Cathcart was buried there, "Cathcart's Hill," in front of the Fourth Division.

On the 26th instant, in the afternoon, General Canrobert reviewed the second *corps d'armée* and the *corps de reserve*, under the command of General Bosquet. As this body of the French army comprehends four divisions, or 24 regiments, without including the artillery, the troops assembled could not have been less in number than 35,000 men: taking into account the battalions which were absent on duty in observation along the flank, or in the trenches. The day was fine, and an immense concourse of British officers and other spectators were present. Having rode along the lines of each regiment, and inspected them carefully, the officers were called together and General Canrobert made an address to them. He praised the condition and bearing of the troops, and alluded to the trials of the past winter, expressing his satisfaction that they had endured them so bravely. He regretted that his companions prevented him from seeing his comrades in arms so often as he wished. In speaking of the prolonged siege, he said: "If we knock at the door, and get no answer, we tap at the window; and, if we can't get admission by the one, we contrive to get in by the other." In a few days—fifteen or so, he added—60,000 more comrades will have arrived in the Crimea, when active operations may be expected on all sides. He desired the officers to repeat his remarks to the troops; and then, having taken up a favourable position, all the regiments marched past in grand divisions. The Artillery followed, and subsequently the cavalry were passed in review. Each division, in marching past, was preceded by the bands and drums of all the regiments composing it; and the combined effect produced by this mass of musicians, nearly 400 in number, was very grand and spirit stirring. The little vivandières followed the bands, and attracted general attention from their neat and trim attire and uniform among the English soldiers. The easy active movement and the picturesque costumes of the regiments of Zouaves and Indigènes were particularly admired. But it was in the manner that the spectacle was more especially fine and imposing. General Canrobert appeared in robust health, and seemed to scrutinise each regiment as it passed very minutely. The following day he was to review the troops of the Imperial Guard and Gen. Prémier's corps d'armée.

Yesterday, the 27th inst., Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who has arrived in the Crimea, was expected to visit the camp, and some of the divisions in front were under arms to receive him, but his lordship did not arrive. It was understood that he was detained too long at Balaklava, and was consequently compelled to defer his visit.

The weather has continued very fine and mild. On the night between the 25th and 26th inst. there was heavy rain, which lasted for five or six hours. The health of the troops in front continues favourable. There appears to be more fever among the regiments in the neighbourhood of Balaklava.

The cavalry had races again at Kamaï yesterday, but they were thinly attended.

BERLIN, TUESDAY, MAY 8.—A despatch from St. Petersburg, dated the 7th instant, has been received here; it says:—"On the night between the 1st and 2nd the enemy, having commenced 10,000 men, took possession of the lodgments in front of Bastion No. 3, and captured nine small coehorn mortars. On the 2nd the enemy opened a heavy cannonade on Bastions Nos. 4 and 5, and on the adjoining lines. The damage which they did was repaired during the night. We fired with success five mines against the enemy's approaches."

THE ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

Crimea, April 24.

SIR,—One or two staff surgeons, in the worst days of our distress during the past winter, maintained that "nothing was wanting." No wonder, therefore, that some of the evidence given before the Committee of the House of Commons should assume the same tone.

Dr. Dambeck was among this number. He left the Crimea, by a medical board, just as we received news that public indignation was roused at home, because they considered "something had been wanting." Very shortly after his arrival in England, he was appointed to the important post of Assistant to the Director-General; the same which Dr. Andrew Smith himself occupied before he received the situation of Superintendent of the Medical Department of the Army, on Sir James McGrigor's retirement from the service. The medical officer holding this appointment ordinarily remains in England, and it is looked upon as one of the most valuable gifts in the service. Dr. Spence, who previously held it, was sent as a member of the medical commission to the Crimea, and was drowned in the Prince, transport.

There is a very simple way of testing whether those staff surgeons who said "nothing was wanting," or whether those staff and regimental surgeons who said that much was wanting, and that of a serious kind, spoke in truthful earnest. The following letter and questions were addressed to each surgeon of division, and regimental surgeon in the Crimea, in January last. Let the original replies be laid before the committee and examined—not a report only drawn up from them. Although two members of the committee sent by the Duke of Newcastle were staff-surgeons—both of them an inspector-general of hospitals, with great power over the comfort and prospects of surgeons of an inferior grade—I have no doubt these documents will tend to elucidate the subject.

A REGIMENTAL SURGEON.

(Copy.)

Balaklava, Jan. 7, 1855.

SIR,—Having been instructed by the Minister for War, to make certain inquiries into the condition of the sick and wounded officers and men of the British army in the East, we have to request that you will furnish us, at your earliest convenience, with the following information, viz.:—"A return of all requisitions made by you or any officer, or other persons under your orders, for marquees, tents, hospital furniture and stores, medicines, and medical comforts, distinguishing the quarters upon which the requisitions were made, showing also what requisitions were, and what were not, complied with, and stating any reasons which were assigned by those upon whom the non-complied requisitions were made as the grounds for such non-compliance.

We have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servants,
(Signed) A. CUMMING, I.G H.
F. BERNER MAXWELL.
F. SINCLAIR LAING, S.S.

To the Medical Officer in charge of the — Division.

(Copy.)

Balaklava, December, 1854.

SIR,—Having been instructed by the Duke of Newcastle to make certain inquiries into the condition of the sick and wounded officers and soldiers of the British Army in the East, we have to request that you will favour us, at your earliest convenience, with the following information:—

1. The number of medical officers now present with your regiment, stating their names and rank.

2. The number of orderlies and other hospital attendants employed, and their general fitness for their duties in that capacity.

3. The number of tents supplied for hospital accommodation, and your opinion as to its sufficiency.

4. The quantity and nature of bed and bedding supplied for each patient, together with your opinion as to its sufficiency. Also the number of store stools, bed pans, utensils, and other hospital conveniences.

5. The general nature and average quantity of medicines and medical comforts usually kept with the regiment.

6. The supply of surgical instruments, and the means of keeping them in good order and repair.

7. The means of cooking hospital rations and extras, and the adequacy or inadequacy of such means.

8. The nature of carriage supplied for the sick and wounded in the field, for hospital tents and stores, medicines, medical comforts, and provisions and surgical instruments, materials, and appliances.

9. Is the number of medical officers, orderlies, and other hospital attendants under you sufficient? If not, have you at any time applied for more, and if so what was the result of your application?

10. Have you been unable at any time since the landing of your regiment in the Crimea, and if so, how often, and for how long on each occasion (to the best of your recollection), to procure on requisition, within the ordinary and proper time for obtaining such things, a supply of any and what medicines, surgical instruments or the repair of them, surgical materials and appliances, medical comforts, hospital furniture and conveniences, provisions for use of the hospital?

11. Have you on any occasion since the landing of your regiment in the Crimea been obliged to procure from other quarters than the purveyor or apothecary any articles comprised under the heads mentioned in the last question? If so, state from what quarter you procured them, and what the articles were.

We shall feel obliged by any further information and suggestions which you can give on hearing in any way upon the subject of the above questions.

We have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servants,
(Signed) A. CUMMING, I.G H.
F. BERNER MAXWELL.
F. SINCLAIR LAING, S.S.

To the Medical Officer in charge of the — Regiment.

MEDICAL OFFICERS IN THE CRIMEA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I see by the report of the inquiry before the Sebastopol Committee of the House of Commons, that the right hon. the late Secretary-at-War has stated in his evidence that more medical officers were sent out with the army to the East than were ever sent out with a similar army, and, therefore, he concludes that an adequate number of medical officers were sent out.

I submit that the question is not whether more medical officers were sent out with this force than were ever sent out with a similar force formerly,—but whether the number sent out at this time was adequate to the exigency of the service.

History is there to tell that, even in our days,—at Walcheren, in the Peninsula, at Waterloo, &c.,—there were, at no time, half the medical officers required; and, alas! what was it in the time of Penguin!

The right hon. the late Secretary-at-War says that two advices were submitted to him: one advised to increase the number of regimental medical officers; the other wished to increase the number of staff medical officers,—and he regrets he did not take the last advice.

Both these advices were good; the only regret he ought to have is that he did not take both, and, in all human probability, many and many a valuable life would have been saved from an untimely grave.

Two hundred and four medical officers were at first attached to that army—latterly the number was increased to about five hundred, and yet we find, by the report of the commission sent out by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, that the nurses were, even now, obliged to wash and dress bed-sores, and even severe wounds—(see Miss Nightingale's declaration before the above commissioners)—a proof in the want of surgical aid; and, on an average, every medical officer has eighty patients to attend and to visit twice a day, which is impossible any medical officer can do with satisfaction to himself or with benefit to his patients; and when it is considered that the great majority of these gentlemen placed to attend the sick and wounded are lyers, no one can be surprised at the vast mortality which has taken place in those establishments.

As the organisation of the medical staff of the army is to be revised, let us hope, in the interest of humanity, that the Minister for War will consult those who have their profession—those who have seen service—those who know the diseases land-scurvy to escape, and those who have experience in the organisation of regimental and general hospitals in and out of the field.

And let him not be guided by the advice of naturalists, of physiologists, of coolies, and of accountants—gentlemen highly respectable, but specialties, who have no idea of active service—who know nothing of disease in general—who know nothing of diseases incidental to camps—and who have no experience of what are the requisites for regimental or for general hospitals in and out of the field. I am, &c.,

D. MACLOUGHLIN, M.D.,
Member of the Legion of Honour.

34, Brunswick-street, Berkeley-square, May 10.

ARMY REFORM.

THE STAFF OF THE ENGLISH ARMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—What recollections of nepotism rise before my "mind's eye" as I write the word "Staff"! On this topic more than perhaps almost any other connected with army reform, do the civilians of England require enlightening. If the country could but get knowledge of the way in which Staff officers obtain their appointments, I should not have any fear as to whether our whole military system will or will not be reformed. All I pretend to do is to give the electors of the nation a plain statement of facts connected with the service. Twelve years' experience in that service should give me a little knowledge of the working of the scheme, and, without vanity, I think it has done so. The ignorance of the great mass of Englishmen who have never served in the army regarding all matters connected with the service, is astonishing. But I can account for it. Until the late disasters in the Crimea brought soldiers, and all that concerns soldiers, into prominent notice, the public of this country were under an impression that the courage which every Englishman, Irishman, and Scotchman inherits as part of his birthright, would carry us through any campaign. Thanks to Government mismanagement—and, allow me to add, to the military blunders of Lord Raglan—the eyes of the nation are getting a little opened on these subjects. A little enlightenment is all they now require, and the pressure from without will force upon ministers what Lord Palmerston as yet seems determined to obstruct—namely, an entire and sweeping reform of our whole military system.

In former letters I have exposed the manner in which officers, by sheer force of money, get on in the service. I also devoted one or two of these communications to showing up the bartering, exchanging, buying, selling and brokering in commissions, which are events of every days' occurrence. I will now do my best towards exposing the way in which officers get appointed to the Staff of the English army.

If I were put on my oath in a witness-box to-morrow, and on that oath asked the question, "Did you during the twelve years you served in the Royal Army ever know an officer appointed to the Staff of that army from *either his personal merit or his military acquirements?*" my answer would be, "No; never in one single instance did I know or hear of a nomination to the Staff, except on the grounds of private interest, personal connexion, or other similar reasons." I don't say that here and there a Staff officer may not be found who is perfectly well qualified for the appointment he holds. For instance, every man who remembers "Clarke, of the Greys" when he was a regimental officer, must acknowledge that he is a very proper man for the situation of Assistant Quartermaster-General at the Horse Guards, the post which he now fills. The same may be said of Major Morris, of the 17th Lancers, lately appointed one of the Deputy Assistant Adjutant Generals at head-quarters; but these—with a few others—are the exceptions, not the rule. From "General Henry Viscount Hardinge," commanding in Chief, down to the three dozen young aide-de-camp serving on the staff in the Crimea, personal interest, and that alone, has been the means of getting officers appointed to the staff. If any one doubt what I say, let him ask such officers as have spent their time and money in studying at the senior department of Sandhurst whether they have, in a professional point of view, derived the slightest benefit from the examinations they have passed or the honours they have taken at that institution? I venture to say that not one of these gentlemen will affirm he has gained the slightest advantage even from having passed the very highest examination at Sandhurst. How, then, are officers appointed to the Staff? By personal or family interest, and by that alone. On looking over the *Army List* you will find it as almost universal rule, that every general officer holding a command has one or more officers of his personal Staff of the same name as himself. I have known aides-de-camp selected by general officers from various motives. I was once on the Staff in that capacity myself. A very worthy general, now dead and gone, selected me for his aide-de-camp because he had known my parents very well some twenty years before he met me. My predecessor in office was sent back to regimental duty because he was given to flirting with the governess of the General's daughters. A friend of mine, who returned last year from Bombay, told me that the late Lord Frederick Fitzclarence—at that time Commander-in-Chief of Bombay—had turned off his Staff no less than two Military Secretaries and three aide-de-camps, because they were given to flirtations with other men's wives. My informant further stated that his Lordship was at the time on the look out for a purely moral Staff, but had great difficulty in finding what he wanted. About 11 years ago I remember a General Officer of the Queen's army commanding a division in the North West of India, whose aide-de-campwas selected on account of his knowledge in rearing and feeding poultry for the Officer's table. And so on I might fill three or four columns of your paper with similar anecdotes of officers being selected for the Staff, owing to qualifications which are anything but those in which a soldier should take a pride. In England we have but one Cavalry General, properly so called, namely, the Inspector-General of Cavalry. The officer now holding this appointment is Lord Cardigan. But his lordship's aide-de-camp is Captain Maxse, of the Coldstream Guards, an infantry officer. When Lord Lucan commanded the cavalry in the Crimea, his aide-de-camp was his son, Lord Bingham, also of the Coldstreams, and also an infantry officer. Major-General the Hon. J. Y. Scarlett, who now commands the cavalry division before Sebastopol, has for one of his aides-de-camp, his nephew, the Hon. W. Scarlett, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, another infantry officer. On the other hand, Lieut.-General Sir Richard England, commanding the Third Infantry Division of the Army in the Crimea, has for one of his aide-de-camps Lieut. the Hon. (oh, those honourables) C. Keith, of the 4th Light Dragoons, a cavalry officer; and in the Second Infantry Division of the same army, one of the Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-Generals is Brevet Major Thompson, of the 10th Hussars, a Cavalry officer. With the single exception of Lord Bingham, who was for a few weeks in a cavalry regiment, none of these officers have ever served except in the branch to which they now belong. Is not this—as you expressed it not long ago in a leading article—like setting the groom to nurse the baby, the gardener to cook the dinner, the housemaid to drive the carriage, and the cook to clean the horses? Mr. Roebuck's committee seem to waste a vast deal of time in asking questions which the recruit of yesterday could answer. Why don't they inquire how the staff of the Crimean Army is constituted? Why don't they ask whether the right men have been put in the right places in the force now before Sebastopol? If they did so, don't you think that much at which the world now wonders would be made plain? Suppose that a railway company were to allow their secretary to drive a locomotive, their accountant to manage the points, a porter to take the secretary's place, and a guard that of the accountant—what would be result? You and your readers can answer that question better than I can. Yet this is exactly the way matters have been managed in the Crimean Staff. Even in the highest appointments things are not better. I should like much to hear Sir De Lacy Evans's candid opinion as to what he thinks of either General Estcourt or General Airey. Will any man who knows the A B C of military matters say that, with a competent Staff, we should have had the fearful amount of mismanagement at Sebastopol which has lost us so many lives? In the name of truth, let us put the saddle on the right horse. I don't deny that many blunders were committed by the home authorities, but, as a soldier who has seen not a little service in his day, I feel convinced that no amount of good management in England would have served the army before Sebastopol, when the Staff of that army was composed of men perfectly unfit for the situations they held. What could the Duke of Newcastle, or any other minister, do in England, when apathy and ignorance ruled the camp before Sebastopol? God help our brave fellows in that camp, unless Parliament do their duty to the country, and insist upon an immediate reform in all our military departments.

I have more to say on the subject of the Staff, but must do so in a future letter. When we come to compare the qualifications required for a French Staff Officer with the little that is thought necessary for an Englishman holding a like appointment, your readers will be able to judge pretty clearly as to what was the cause of nine-tenths of our disasters in the Crimea.

ONE WHO HAS SERVED SIX YEARS IN THE CAVALRY, AND THE SAME TIME IN THE INFANTRY.

London, April 24, 1855.

SEBASTOPOL.—JOURNAL OF THE BOMBARDMENT.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT).

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, APRIL 21.

I resume my narrative of the leading events of the siege. The present enclosure embraces the operations of the past week.

APRIL 14.—Notwithstanding frequent fogs and showers, the fire from the batteries has been active during the whole day. The enemy appears to have been adhering to the policy of reserving his fire as much as possible. The Malakhoff and Mamelon works, and the batteries between them and Careening Bay, have been remarkably silent. A very constant fire has been kept up by the French works against the two Russian redoubts recently thrown up on the east side of Careening Bay, and their fire appears to have been in a great degree silenced. The batteries on the opposite side of the roadstead have replied, however, with energy; but, it is said, have not been able to effect any damage to the French batteries. The Redan, and adjoining batteries to the left as far as the Barrack Battery, near the South Harbour, have been the most unwearying of the Russian works in replying to the English guns. Their works appeared to be much injured, and several guns must have been disabled; but towards sunset, as if to show that they had been able to replace them by others, they fired a round, sending a shot from each embrasure in succession. In the same way they fired an evening salute from the embrasure of the Mamelon Redoubt. A vigorous discharge has been maintained from the French batteries on the left, and the part of the town in face of the right section of their attack appears a mass of ruins. It is stated also that a very favourable impression is being made by the French works against the Russian batteries connecting Quarantine Fort with the Central Bastion on that side.

There is a rumour going round the camp that a spy in the pay of the Commander-in-Chief has brought intelligence of the town and fortifications having been very seriously injured by the bombardment. The barracks in the dockyard, which used to show until lately a vast number of lights at night, seem to be deserted, for these extensive ranges of buildings are now left in total obscurity after sunset. Some of the large shells, weighing each upwards of two hundred pounds, including their bursting discharge, thrown from the 13-inch sea-service mortars on Frenchman's-hill, have fallen if not into, at any rate close to, these buildings, and must have inflicted great damage to their structure. The eminence on which the Redan is placed prevents the full effect of these projectiles from being observed in front, and the Malakhoff-hill and other irregularities in the ground obstruct the view of the arsenal and dockyard buildings from other positions on the right. Latterly these sea service mortars have been directing their fire against the works on the Malakhoff-hill.

Among our casualties to-day was Captain John Edward Mitchell, of the Royal Artillery, who was killed by a round shot in the right attack. Ensign Harold Preston, 8th Regiment, received a mortal wound while in the advanced work of Frenchman's-hill, and died about half an hour afterwards. He was quite a boy in age and appearance, and had only been with the corps just long enough to endear himself to all his brother officers. A ball from one of the Russian riflemen found its way between two gabions and struck him in the body as he was walking along the trench. Several sailors and artillerymen were wounded in the batteries, and a few men of the covering parties in the advanced works by the fire from the enemy's embrasures.

APRIL 15.—A constant discharge of shells was kept up during the night against the enemy's works. The fire during the day has been much the same in intensity from the siege batteries, but has been more active on the part of the Russians. A small three-gun battery between the Redan and Barrack Battery, early in the morning, particularly distinguished itself by the frequency of its fire; but some well-directed shots were sent against it, and after a time it was completely silenced. In the course of the morning a shell which fell just within the salient angle of the Redan burst and blew up a platform, and must have damaged the neighbouring guns. A couple of shells which burst one after the other just within the Barrack Battery appeared to do great execution, and for a time stopped the fire from this work altogether: it had previously been directing a heavy cannonade against the batteries on Greenhill.

In the afternoon Fort Constantine fired three shots against a small steamer as it passed from the northward toward the fleet, which was lying off the coast between Quarantine and Kamiesch Bays. The steamer was just out of range, and passed on unhurt.

Captain Crofton, of the Royal Engineers, who received a severe fracture of the thigh from a round shot on the 12th instant, died to-day. His constitution had been much impaired by service at Hong-Kong, and to this fact, in a great degree, is attributed the fatal result of the injury. General Bizot, of the French Engineers, who has throughout the siege been particularly prominent in all the engineering operations of our allies, also died to-day from the effects of a wound. About a week previous, while in one of the advanced works of the centre (British) attack, he was struck by a rifle ball in the face. It penetrated deeply, but effected an exit through the opposite cheek. Severe inflammation followed, and led to his death. He is deeply regretted, not only by his own countrymen, but by all who were acquainted with him in the British service. He earnestly co-operated with Major Gordon and the other commanding Royal Engineers during the earlier period of the siege in the preparation and execution of the several works. Latterly he has been constantly occupied in superintending the advance of the new approaches towards the Mamelon and Malakhoff hills. Major Gordon, who has not quitted his tent in camp, is fast recovering from his wounds.

We had fine, dry weather, with a westerly wind to-day, until the approach of evening, when the sky became clouded, and rain fell.

APRIL 16.—An active shelling was continued all night, and a heavy fire from all the batteries opened at daylight.

The French sprung a mine last evening to the left of the Flagstaff Bastion. The gunpowder appeared to have been injured by the continued rain of the previous day, and the result was not so satisfactory as had been anticipated. A considerable portion of the enemy's earthwork was, however, scattered, and a space sufficient for effecting a lodgment was cleared. At a later hour the Russians made a sortie in strong force against the right of the advanced French line, and after a severe contest were successfully repulsed. The number wounded among our allies is said to have been greater than usual. The Russians must have suffered severely before they reached the shelter of their ambuscades. Shortly after the fire of musketry commenced on the left, the attack gradually extended itself until it reached the line of advanced works of the French on the right. The enemy did not come against the British part of the line in force, and was easily repulsed. They appeared rather to be reconnoitring, to ascertain if our sentries were on the alert. They were compelled to retire, with scarcely any casualties on our side. In repelling some of the enemy from before the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill, Captain Donovan, of the 33rd Regiment, accidentally injured himself. He had discharged one barrel of his revolver against a Russian in front of him, and was about to fire at another a short time afterwards when some one fell against him; he was in the act of raising his pistol at the time, and the stock caused it to go off. The ball entered his foot, and the injury will very probably disable him for several weeks or a longer period.

An explosion occurred in our right attack about half past 2 p.m. Fortunately it was only the expense magazine which suffered, and there was but a small amount of gunpowder in it at the time. The work—a new 5-gun battery near the advanced work, and which was only opened three days previously—was, therefore, not damaged materially; but one man was killed, and several were wounded. Among the wounded was Lieutenant William Norris, lately transferred from the fleet to the second battalion of the Rifle Brigade. He was struck in the chest by a fragment of stone, and it is hoped that the effects of the injury will be only of a temporary nature. The explosion was caused by a shell from one of the enemy's howitzers, which passed through an em-

* This part of the journal should have followed that at page 93.

leasure and entered the magazine by the wall at its side.

The 10th Hussars have been landing to-day. They have only lost 15 horses since the regiment left Bombay. Colonel William Fairlie, commanding, being some months senior to Colonel Lord George Paget, 4th Light Dragoons, will now take charge of the Cavalry Division, and Lord George Paget resume the command of the brigade of Light Cavalry. The 10th Hussars are to be attached to this brigade.

The day has been fine and mild, but on several occasions a thick mist has passed over the plateau, without remaining longer than fifteen minutes, or half an hour, at a time.

April 17.—There has been no change in the character of the siege operations to-day, and I have not heard of any occurrence in the batteries worthy of note. The 8-gun battery near the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill, which was injured by the explosion in the expense magazine the day before, was repaired last night, and all its guns are now in working order. The fire, both in our right and left attacks, has been slackened. It is said that the present stock of fuze is nearly expended, but that a vessel bringing a fresh supply is hourly expected. The fire of the French on the left continues active.

A body of Russian cavalry, supposed to be about 400 strong, and some columns of infantry, made a reconnaissance to-day in a direction toward Baïdakova. They approached from Tchorgoun, but took care not to advance within range of our guns.

Several visitors have arrived lately, and inspected the camp and scene of operations before Sebastopol. The Earl of Selkirk is among their number. A stranger will now find a state of things very different from the condition which existed two or three months ago.

There was a dense fog last night, and as it cleared away the day became sunny, bright, and warm. In the afternoon a north wind again brought dense mists from the sea, and as they swept rapidly by the sun became obscured, and the atmosphere damp and chilling. These sudden changes of temperature, and variations in the condition of the air, are very trying and injurious to the constitutions of invalids; and even the healthy require to guard against their influence.

The electric telegraph wire being now submerged, and a communication established between Varna and Cape St. George, it is hoped that a very short time will elapse before the whole line to Vienna will be completed. A message may then be transmitted from the Crimea to Vienna in two or three hours, or from the Crimea to London in about eight hours. Similar means of communication are already in active operation between Lord Raglan's head-quarters and Balaklava, the right and left siege train depôts, and our right attack. Messages can be sent from the station at any one of these points. The French continue to employ aërophores.

The chief subject of conversation in camp is still the assault. Rumour gives several plans of operation—all, of course, the offspring of surmise and conjecture. At one time the Third Division are to lead, support ed by the Fourth Division. At another time it is arranged that the French shall make a general attack on the fortifications to the left of the south harbour, and on the right against the works of the Mamelon and Malakhoff hills, and the two redoubts on the east side of Careening Bay, while the British, in full force, assault the Redan (which is now extended into a gigantic work), and the other batteries connected with it on either side. Arguments are not wanting against undertaking at present a general assault: among others, that the impression yet made on the fortifications is not equal to what was expected, and that such breaches have not been effected as would justify an assault. The undertaking is certainly many times more hazardous and difficult than it would have been after the opening of the first siege attack in October last. The material armament arrayed against us has been probably increased tenfold, and the strength of the defences, by the arrangement of the batteries and works, a hundredfold. On the other hand, the force of our attack has increased more fully in proportion to that of the power of resistance, inasmuch as our approaches have been advanced so close, and we have so much heavier metal in the batteries. But the proof of this superiority is not yet evidenced in the state of the enemy's works, while the increased difficulties of assault, until proper breaches are effected, are sufficiently obvious. Strong lines of abattis and stakes, deep ditches, and numerous other visible obstacles, have been formed since the commencement of operations, and many other unseen impediments no doubt exist. Perhaps only a partial assault on the place may be intended now, as a preliminary step to other operations. In that case, the probable site of attack would be the Central Bastion on the left. The French have advanced their parallel close to this work. This is on many accounts a favourable point to effect a lodgment. Being effected, an enfilading fire could be opened against the Garden Battery and the two batteries in rear, and the entire line of defences must soon yield altogether. An important advance would be made, too, towards taking the Quarantine Battery, and progressing in that direction. On the right, if the Redan could be successfully stormed and carried, and the enemy made a determined resistance, the assailants would be exposed to a very severe fire from the batteries of the inner line of defence.

In case of a general assault it would be an important consideration whether a sufficient portion of the force in rear—the army on the north heights—could be drawn away, so that the troops of the garrison might lose the moral support derived from the knowledge of there being a powerful army close at hand, and ready to co-operate with them. Could this be done, there is little doubt but British pluck and French gallantry would prevail, and line after line be carried, and held; provided that our fleet could effect an entry, and for a time engage the fire of the ships in the roadstead. There is reason for supposing that this would not be a matter of such difficulty as is supposed by many. The line of large ships sunk at the mouth of the roadstead has met with considerable damage from the storms of the past winter and the impulse of the waves; and by some it is asserted that they have been so weakened and separated that the opposition they would offer to the entry of powerful steamers would hardly be taken into account. But if necessary, the opening can be speedily effected by submarine blasting. As to the supposed line of sunken ships extending across the roadstead from a point near the south harbour, this is very probably a device of the enemy, and little more than a simple obstruction, formed of portions of old hulks, spare masts and timbers, lashed together and anchored, so as to form a barrier more formidable in appearance than reality. Then, to distract the enemy's attention and draw it elsewhere, we have here Omer Pasha, with nearly 20,000 Egyptian and Ottoman troops available for operations in the rear, to aid that portion of the French and British force which could be spared from the duties of the assault. Probably a conjoined French and Ottoman army might be ready to execute a diversion towards the north side; and a portion of the Sardinian contingent must also be on its way to the Crimea. All these considerations, and others not named, enter into the discussions which are hourly taking place in camp on the subject of the assault.

April 18.—There was scarcely any firing from the batteries last night. A heavy fog cleared away soon after sunrise, and a warm fine day followed.

Captain Frederick King, of the Royal Engineers, was wounded by a rifle ball last evening, near the advanced work of the right attack. The ball entered near the hip, and has not been extracted, but the surgeon do not apprehend any serious results from the injury.

A meeting for athletic games and contests among the men of the Light Division took place to-day, on the slope of the hill between the Picket House and the ground occupied by the 90th and 97th Regiments. About 30 prizes were distributed. The usual exercises of wrestling, leaping, running, and trials of strength, were engaged in; while such games as attempting to wheel handbarrows to a given point blindfold, and jumping in sacks, added to the merriment of the assemblage. Towards the conclusion Lord Raglan rode up, and through the Lieutenant-General, Sir George Brown, gave a prize to be contested for in a foot race. The Field-Marshal remained 20 minutes or so on the ground, and was loudly cheered at his departure. No one who had not seen these soldiers since December or January last could now have recognised them as the same men, so altered are they in condition and spirits. Now, for the most part, stout and vigorous in frame, with the glow of health on their faces, cheerfulness exhibited in hearty roars of laughter at the temporary discomfiture of one athlete, or loud applause at the successful feats of another, bustling and active—what a pleasing contrast with former suffering, such, let us hope, as will never return! and what satisfactory evidence of the good results not only of change of season, but also of better diet and better provision in all respects.

The mail due on the 16th instant is not yet delivered. The bag for head-quarters arrived safely yesterday, but the rest of the letters have been detained by some accident, the nature of which is not known at the Post-office.

Our fire from the batteries has been very slack to-day—about thirty rounds having been discharged from each of the comparatively few guns in action. Nearly the same number of rounds was fired yesterday. The French fire on the left has continued to be more energetic than ours. The enemy has repaired much of the damage which has been done to their works, and though to-day some destructive practice has been made against the Mamelon and Malakhoff batteries, yet generally the works appear as complete, and almost as well ordered, as when the fire began.

It is evident now that the intention of assaulting, at least for the present, is abandoned. Several days ago an attempt might have been made. The great Redan was supposed to be practicable on Friday or Saturday last; it is manifestly not so now. We shall not, with our present siege material, in all probability reduce the fire from the fortifications to the same extent as it was then reduced. Gunnery on our side has almost done its utmost. Unless we can considerably excel our antagonist in the number and weight of metal, which we do not seem to have done yet, we are only "playing at long bowls" without any permanent advantage. The lines of earthworks around Sebastopol are composed of the same materials as our batteries, and are constructed on equally scientific principles; there appears to be scarcely any limit to labour, armament, or ammunition; and there is no reason why, under such circumstances, they should yield to our efforts at their destruction. The siege of Sebastopol has furnished a lesson in the power of resistance in earthworks, worthy of study by those who will condescend to profit by it.

A rumour has been going round the camps that the day for the assault was fixed, and all the arrangements completed. The intended position and duty of each regiment are named. It is said that at the council on Friday evening, the 13th inst., when put to the vote whether the assault should take place as proposed on the following morning, the French Commander-in-Chief dissented, on the ground that he did not consider the enemy's fire sufficiently subdued to warrant the undertaking. True will solve the truth of these statements. It is doubtful, perhaps, whether the assault would have succeeded—perhaps only those who were too sanguine imagined it would; but the general feeling among the English troops is one of disappointment that it was not attempted. They would rather have encountered all the risk and dangers of the assault than undergo the prolonged and harrassing labours of the trenches.

There can be no advantage in attempting to disguise the fact, so obviously apparent, that the second trial of making a decisive impression on the works of the fortress has been as unsuccessful as the first attempt of the 17th of October. A general feeling of disappointment prevails on the subject. Some attempt to explain the failure, by asserting that the General of Engineers had not completed his works and arrangements when the order for opening the attack was issued. Certainly some of our most advanced batteries, for example those on the left attack, were not armed when the fire opened; and the state of the roads along the ravines, caused by the rain, prevented them afterwards from being armed as soon as they otherwise might have been. But one or two omissions or accidents of this kind will hardly explain the general failure of the bombardment.

Now comes the question—what is to be the next move? for no one doubts that the fortress, vast as it is, can be, and is to be, taken. It is a great enterprise, and the efforts must be proportionate. Many difficulties exist now, which did not exist at the beginning of the winter. The old impediments continue. The enemy has possession of the country, and a free communication with it; and by this means is enabled daily to renovate the strength of the garrison, and supply all its waste connected with the means of defence. There appears to be no more deficiency of means of transport than there is of men and material. But the great difficulty—the fresh impediment—is the vast increase in the circuit which will now require to be embraced in order to complete the investment. From the heights above the opening of the mountain pass leading to Tchorgoun, to the hills of Inkermann, and thence on to the north side of the roadstead, earthworks—many of a formidable description—have been raised; and to force these would be almost as difficult as to storm the works before the city itself. On the north side a vast entrenched camp has been formed, well provided with batteries, and connected with the citadel and the forts of the Great Harbour by strongly defended positions and works. Approaches from the north have been guarded against, while important points of connexion to the east and west have been secured and fortified.

Under these circumstances a new field is opened—a new plan of operations required. What this is to be is, perhaps, still under consideration by the commanders themselves; but it is manifest that, while a sufficient force remains to protect this position and carry on the siege, a portion of the army will have to leave and commence a new campaign elsewhere. The scene of contest will be in part changed; our soldiers are likely to see some of the vaunted beauties of the southern and south-eastern parts of the Crimea. In the meantime, the progress of the siege works against the fortifications is not arrested; on the contrary, the attack by regular approaches continues to be systematically and energetically advanced. Our allies on the right are slowly, but surely, gaining ground, inch by inch, toward the Mamelon and Malakhoff Tower; we, in the same way, are sapping up to the Redan and works round the arsenal; while on the left, again, the French are fast closing upon the outer line of defences surrounding the town itself. We must wait for further events.

April 19.—The mail arrives, with papers to April the 2nd.

There is a marked change in the weather to-day. A cold, stormy wind, at times increased to a gale, is blowing from the north, and the sky is clouded and overcast.

The fire from our batteries is much diminished; the French fire on the left still continues active.

A reconnaissance was made to-day toward Tchorgoun. The troops consisted of a mixed force of French, English, and Ottoman regiments; about four hundred of our cavalry, among whom were two squadrons of the 10th Hussars, taking part in the expedition. The remainder of the cavalry consisted principally of the Chasseurs d'Afrique. The infantry was furnished from the Ottoman troops lately arrived in the Crimea. A French battery accompanied the force. Skirting the line of hills by Kamara, they proceeded toward Tchorgoun, where a few shots were exchanged by the most forward skirmishers, and returned along the valley. It was stated that the chief object of the reconnaissance was to show Omer Pasha the ground. As the body of troops retired some Cossacks advanced, but were compelled to return by the discharge of some rockets from a French battery on the right flank overlooking the Baïdakova valley. Two marines, who from motives of curiosity had advanced too far toward Kamara, were taken prisoners, and though their captors were pursued, they effected an escape with their prize.

April 20.—A very gallant attack was made last night on some Russian rifle pits in front of the new approaches being carried on from the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill: and though the undertaking was successfully accomplished, this success was purchased at a costly sacrifice. It was at first arranged that part of the force under Colonel Yea, 7th Fusiliers, took off to guard the advanced work, should make the attack, Colonel Egerton, 77th Regiment, being in reserve with 250 men of his regiment; but this plan was subsequently changed, and the affair entrusted to Colonel Egerton himself and his men.

Several weeks have now elapsed since the new approach alluded to was commenced. It was made to extend from the left of the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill (right attack), and the zigzag had not proceeded far forwards, when the Russians contrived one night to throw up a large ambuscade in front of it. Subsequently another was placed still farther off which, in turn, was covered by other ambuscades that had been for a long time established by the enemy on the verge of the hill, where it loses itself in the dip of the ravine. The two rifle pits nearest to the zigzag approach were together capable of holding about 120 men, and the foremost, that nearest to the work, in particular, was the object of last night's operations. It was necessary to secure this pit, as it lay in the proposed line of the advancing trench, which was being sapped towards it from an angle on the left. Its distance in front of the line of trench last finished was not more than twenty-five yards. It was so close, that a few days since the Russians tossed an empty glass bottle from it among our men in the trench; and they in return, not wishing to expend uselessly their ammunition against the enemy who were securely protected behind the wall of the ambuscade, had contented themselves by pitching over some stones. This pit was about 150 yards in front of that part of our advanced work from which the zig-zag had started, and about 600

yards from the Redan, towards which the zig-zag was approaching. Not far off, between it and the abattis in front of the Redan, is a large quarry with many loose stones scattered about: this quarry at night is always occupied by Russian riflemen.

Shortly after nine o'clock Colonel Egerton gave directions for his men to move against the first ambuscade, having previously ordered that it was to be carried at the point of the bayonet. The night was dark and favourable for the enterprise. It was arranged that the parties attacking should advance in two columns, so as to surround the pit. Captain Gilby led the left column, and Captain Lempriere the right. Scarcely any resistance was made at the first ambuscade, from which the enemy was no sooner driven than the attack was carried on against the second. This was so quickly accomplished that had it not been for some inadvertent shots which gave the alarm, the second pit would have been captured with almost the same ease as the first. As it was, the Russians in this pit received the advancing party with a volley, and being reinforced by some men, probably those who had been concealed in the quarry, for some time made resistance. A struggle ensued, which terminated in favour of the English troops, by whom the ambuscade was then occupied. The working parties from the 55th Regiment now advanced the saps up to the first pit, and means were adopted to protect the ambuscade beyond, so as to prevent the Russians regaining possession of it. Could they have got it, they would have annoyed the working party near the first pit by the fire of their rifles. It was too far to hope to sap up to it, also. The garrison was now aroused. The Russians who escaped had barely time to reach their main supports, when confused noise and the rolling of drums told that the enemy was gathering in force, and preparing for attack. Nearly two hours elapsed, however, before the enemy were observed to advance in four dark columns; and shortly after, two field-pieces, charged with grape, were brought to bear upon the ambuscades. Previously a few shells had been thrown up, apparently from some ships in the creek, and the Redan had also fired several shots. The first pit had been turned by the time the field-pieces were brought, and was now secure. After these guns had discharged their fire, the Russian columns rushed on. The small, gallant band protecting the more distant pit, finding themselves overpowered by numbers, fell back on the first pit. The enemy still came forward, and attempted to take this, but was received so warmly that he fell back, and contented himself with recovering possession of the second ambuscade; but Colonel Egerton determined not to permit him to hold even that pit without another struggle, notwithstanding the disparity of numbers, and was in the act of gathering his men for a second charge against the work when a rifle ball struck him in the angle of the mouth, and he fell mortally wounded. One single groan, and life was extinct. At the first attack he had been struck by a bullet in the side, which, though it inflicted no wound, caused him to feel faint, and compelled him to lie down for some minutes. He is reported to have discovered the bullet among his clothes, and to have placed it in his pocket, with the intention of preserving it as a memento. After the death of Colonel Egerton the attack on the second ambuscade was abandoned. The large pit, which was immediately in front of our work, was now connected with the approach, and its front turned toward the enemy. Colonel Egerton was not the only victim. Captain Ashley Lempriere, a lad in years and appearance, the darling of his company, and a general favourite in the regiment, also fell in this affair. He received a wound in the body, and on falling, Colonel Egerton caught him up in his arms as if he had been a child, and calling out, "Make way, men, while I carry my poor boy-captain away," took him to the trench in rear. But he was dead when he laid him down. This happened at the first attack. It is related that when there was a hot fire near the second rifle pit, some men hesitating to advance were seen by young Lempriere, and that he called out "Come on, come on," and that the men at once obeyed the call, and said, "Yes, we'll follow you my master." Officers and men all behaved most gallantly, and the 77th have gained fresh laurels in this affair. Lieutenant Knight distinguished himself at the first attack, by jumping on the parapet of the ambuscade, and into the midst of the Russians within. He yet escaped unhurt.

Colonel Egerton's death is a severe loss to the division of the army with which he had been associated through the whole campaign, the Light Division, but more especially severe to the regiment of which he had been so long the chief ornament. Of Herculean frame and strength, with courage in proportion, of singular independence of character, he was devoted to his profession, and to the welfare of the men under his command. Throughout the trials of the past winter, no one distinguished himself more than he did by his untiring energy and unremitting exertions to procure for his regiment every available comfort and means of protection against the severity of the season, and there is no regiment in finer condition in the army than the one he left behind him. Captain Gilby and Adjutant Morgan, of the same regiment, were both wounded, but slightly. Lieut. John Trevor, of the 55th regiment, a detachment of which formed the working party, was wounded in the elbow, immediately after discharging his pistol against a Russian who advanced towards him. Of the officers of Engineers who were employed superintending the work, two were wounded severely, and one narrowly escaped. Captain Henry Owen received extensive injury to the thigh from grape shot, and it has been since amputated. Lieutenant Stuart Bayne was struck by a rifle ball in the chest. Lieutenant Rennard James, also of the Royal Engineers, had his forage cap shot completely through by a ball, which slightly grazed his head in its passage. Altogether our loss amounted to 2 officers killed, 6 wounded, and about 70 men in all of different regiments killed and wounded; of this number the 77th Regiment had 30 men wounded and 9 or 10 men killed. Such a severe loss to gain possession of one ambuscade makes it appear doubtful whether a general assault would have brought greater proportional loss to the regiments engaged; for an attack carried on by regular approaches, such as appears now to be determined upon, must involve frequent contests similar to that in which the troops were engaged last night. (1)

(1) His short Career has been followed by a Cross of the Legion of Honour and a Brevet Majority.

OUR ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MAY 1.

The approaches towards the enemy's outworks are progressing gradually. The advance does not make much show, but it is one the less sure. As the distance between the works of the besiegers and the fortifications of the town and arsenal is diminished, the attention of the troops of the garrison is proportionably excited, and much care and watchfulness is required on the part of the guards and working parties in the trenches. The fire of the enemy's riflemen, constantly directed against the position of the working parties, which can generally be known, even in the dark, by the sound of the pickaxe and spade, becomes more and more effective, and longer time is occupied in forming the requisite cover. The Russians appear to direct their efforts to impeding the progress of the French works by frequent sorties against them; while against the English works they confide more in works of counter-approach and the fire of their riflemen.

On the right the French are slowly, but steadily, advancing their zigzags against the foremost Russian redoubt on Mount Sapoun, east of Careening Bay; and also toward the works on the Mamelon and Malakhoff hills. To the left, the limited space which exists between their third parallel and the Fingerfl battice, is the scene of nightly conflicts.

The Russians have very much strengthened the new work constructed in the quarry below the Redan. They have also contrived to throw up another large ambuscade, about fifty yards from the furthest of the two ambuscades which our troops took from them on the night of the 19th ult. This new rifle pit is capable of holding sixty or seventy sharpshooters, and was so placed as in a great degree to enfilade our most advanced trench. It is chiefly constructed with sandbags, and loopholes have been made not only near the top of the parapet, but also at convenient distances between the two and the level of the ground. In its neighbourhood five or six small pieces of cover, each capable of holding three men, have been thrown up; these are composed simply of small excavations protected by rough walls or heaps of stones. The short distance at which the riflemen in these pits are placed from the nearest part of our advancing work enables them not unfrequently to send a ball through a half-filled gabion, or even through a filled sand-bag, and several casualties have in this way occurred among our men. A traverse had to be put up, to obviate the enfilading fire from the larger ambuscade. This ambuscade appears to be connected by a covert way with the Redan.

On careful examination the new work in the Quarry appears marked out for ten embrasures. From the apparent depth it was suspected that the enemy proposed to place mortars in this position; but it is now evident that it is intended for heavy guns. A few shells have been thrown into the work, but with this exception the enemy has been permitted to carry it on without interruption. It is expected that one or two heavy pieces on the left attack can be so placed as to bring an enfilading fire upon it, while a direct fire from the right attack will assist in silencing it, in case circumstances should not lead to its being taken before there shall have been sufficient time for its being armed. There seems to be little doubt that the Quarry is covered by the fire of some of the guns of the Mamelon redoubt.

The second parallels both on the left and right attack have been greatly strengthened. Several new batteries have been constructed, and guns of heavier metal brought into position. On the Greenhill attack several batteries have been made and armed in the third parallel, and, still further in advance, a work known as the Redoubt has been thrown up. From this work our riflemen are enabled to do much execution against the enemy's artillerymen in the Flagstaff and Barrack Batteries and the adjoining earth works.

There are various rumours respecting the renewal of the bombardment, and dates for opening fire are named; but they have foundation only in surmise. It is asserted that a very different impression will be made on the enemy's works when the batteries reopen than was made on either of the two previous occasions; but so much confidence was expressed previous to each of those two attacks by the undisciplined and others, that such assertions are now received with distrust. More hope and reliance are placed upon the effect of the combined operations, which, it is understood, are about to take place at Kertch on the one hand, and from the neighbourhood of Eupatoria on the other, than in the isolated efforts of the besiegers on the south side of Sebastopol.

Sir John M'Neill and Col. Tulloch are actively pressing their inquiries into the circumstances of the troops during the past winter, and the causes which led to the disasters of that season. Certain printed queries are addressed to the commanding officers, surgeons and quartermasters of regiments, which they are called upon to reply to in writing; and these officers are afterwards examined personally on the several subjects which their reports elicit. A mass of documentary evidence will thus be collected, which ought to furnish correct data for determining the sources of past errors, and the proper means of avoiding them in future. Dr. Sutherland has also been inspecting and examining into the sanitary condition of the camp and the field hospitals. The vacancy caused by the melancholy death of Dr. Gavin has not been yet filled up.

It is said that a caricature of ladies and officers, Lady George Paget and the two Misses Canning, daughters of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, comprising the former, were fired at by a Russian battery, near Inkermann, on the 26th ult., being mistaken for a body of staff. It is just as probable that the fire was directed at the French redoubt overlooking the valley in this direction. There are many reasons, which need not be named, why a large camp, especially when active operations are being carried on, is unfitted for the visit of ladies; and it may be as well to give this hint, as conversation would lead to the belief that not a few other ladies are purposing to come and see their relations in the field. It is a great pity that some of the soldiers' wives have been permitted to remain with their husbands in camp: it cannot in any way tend to good.

The last two days we have had constant mists and rain, accompanied with a chilling degree of temperature, which went a long way to contradict the announcement in general orders on the 26th ult. that summer had come, and there was, therefore, no further need of winter clothing. This announcement was called forth in consequence of a number of English officers having appeared at the two French reviews in certain and unattainable overcoats, not a very becoming or appropriate costume, beyond all doubt, on such an occasion, and in fine and bright weather. The rain which has fallen has not been heavy, nor sufficient to impede the transport of stores or other operations in the field.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MAY 3.

The operations against Sebastopol are becoming more active, and important events may shortly be anticipated. An expedition has sailed under sealed orders—it is generally understood in camp to make an attack on Kertch. There are rumours of movement from the direction of Eupatoria; and before the fortress itself affairs are assuming such an attitude as must shortly lead to a serious collision.

On Tuesday evening, the 1st inst., the French repeated their attack against the ambuscades and trenches of the Russians in front of the Central Bastion. The undertaking was completely successful, and was accompanied with increased glory to our allies and a dispiriting loss to the enemy. The works captured were of as much importance to the Russians as they were detrimental to the French. The ambuscades were of large size, and the fire of the riflemen concealed within them, and protected by parapets strong enough to resist the shot of heavy guns, was continuous against the French artillerymen in the advanced batteries, and against any visible object in the trenches. Moreover, in the trench which had been made to connect the two larger pits were eight cohorn mortars, from which a frequent discharge of shells took place; and these, especially when the French were brought in front of their works, as in case of the repulse of a sortie, frequently caused considerable annoyance. Two field-pieces were also placed in a convenient position for use near one of the ambuscades. So complete was the success of our allies in this affair that all these mortars were captured, and brought away in triumph to their own camp. This attack, which commenced in the evening, about 10 o'clock, differed from many of the late night attacks, inasmuch as, instead of being dark, the moonlight was so strong that every object was rendered plainly conspicuous. Although there was a light misty haze over the surface of the ground, it was not sufficient to interrupt vision even at long distances. The attack was seen along the whole line. From a distance the fire of the musketry appeared like the sparkling evanescent lights of tropical fire-flies, while the course of each shell was seen from its first ascent to its fall. The flashes of light from the mortars and howitzers were widely reflected through the thin, gauze-like stratum of vapour in the air, and with each brilliant flash the surface of the sea beyond was lit up for a momentary period. The contest lasted about three-quarters of an hour. After the musketry had ceased the Russian batteries poured a tremendous fire in the direction in which the conflict had occurred. Among the French, the gallantry of the men of the first regiment of the Foreign Legion is particularly spoken of. They were completely in advance, and suffered the greatest loss. Their colonel-commandant, two lieutenants, and a sub-lieutenant were killed. The 74th regiment of the line, and a small body of troops of the Imperial Guard, are also highly praised. The loss which our allies suffered is not exactly known, but it is generally estimated at 150 killed, and about 500 in all placed *hors de combat*. The Russian loss is variously estimated, but it must have been very great in proportion. At one time the 74th regiment and the men of the Foreign Legion had contrived to surround one of the Russian battalions, and the two were so mixed that the Russian reserves did not dare to fire from fear of wounding their own troops. Several were on this occasion taken prisoners, and among them were two captains and some cadets. A number of the Russian wounded were carried after the affair to the French ambulance.

About 3 a.m. the enemy returned in great force, and attacked the French, who were holding the pits, and their working parties. But it was of no avail, a sharp fire compelled them to retreat again within their works. The French completed the communication between their own advanced trench and the Russian pits, turning the direction of the latter. As the interval between the two was comprehended a space of about four hundred yards, the completion of this work, taking into account the difficulties under which it was performed, exhibits great energy.

The Russians made one more attempt to regain their lost possession, but with the same result. This was in the afternoon of Wednesday, the 2nd instant, between three and four o'clock p.m. They were so warmly received on this occasion that the fighting did not last long. Nothing can exhibit more strongly than these repeated attacks the importance which the

enemy attached to this position; and as it is closely under the bastion itself, the advantage of holding it to our allies is equally obvious. It is said that the French engineers have discovered that the battery is mined in several directions, and that they are now actively engaged in countermining operations.

On the same day that this third attack near the Flagstaff and Central Battery took place, and about the same time, some vessels of our fleet were observed to fire towards the shore; but their relative position prevented the works at which their fire was directed from being observed in camp. Fort Constantine also discharged a few guns, but they could not, from the distance, have taken effect upon our ships.

The expedition which I alluded to above has started, so far as the land forces are concerned under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown. All the steam sloops and gunboats have gone, and several of the larger vessels of war, including the Royal Albert, with Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, have left. Although the fleet were seen yesterday, the 4th instant, going in a westerly direction, it is generally believed that their destination is Kertch. The Vesuvius has just made a survey of the batteries which guard the entrance of the channel as it approaches towards the Sea of Azoff, and had only returned three days before the expeditionary force was assembled. Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, returned on board, having completed a survey of the enemy's works in that direction. He and Lieutenant De Vere, R.E., have again started with the force which has just left. In the French orders, Eupatoria is alluded to as the direction of the expedition—not unlikely a ruse, to prevent true intelligence being given to the enemy. Odessa is also named as the probable object of attack.

Of the English troops the Highland Brigade, the 3rd Buffs (only just arrived), and the 31st Regiment, form the infantry contingent. A small body of cavalry, consisting only of fifty troopers, has gone, under the command of Colonel Low, of the 4th Light Dragoons, Major Barker's battery has also embarked. The French, it is said, send 10,000 men of all arms.

It is related that Major Gordon obtained important information respecting the nature of the enemy's works near Cape Akburun by an ingenious device. A small vessel had been captured, on board which was a Russian officer's carriage. This was sent ashore, as a matter of politeness, by the naval authorities, the vessel itself, and her crew, being detained as fair prize of war. In the stern sheets of the boat which took the carriage towards the shore sat Major Gordon, but in the costume of a sailor. He had thus sufficient opportunity to make his required notes, and even, in spite of his wounded arm not being yet healed, to take a few sketches of the formidable batteries and the position of their guns. A large fleet of merchantmen is lying in the harbour of Kertch. The scenery in the neighbourhood is described as most beautiful, and evincing the highest cultivation.

The siege works are day by day being strengthened and advanced. Some new batteries on the Greenhill attack have been made, and strongly armed, but have not yet opened. A number of rifle pits, as many as fourteen, have been constructed on the right of this attack, in advance of the foremost parallel. They are deeply excavated, well protected by parapets of proper thickness, and have ready at hand all the materials necessary for the repair of damage which may be done to them by round shot from the enemy's guns. Two of these rifle pits are of large size, each capable of holding fifty or sixty men; the others are smaller, but equally strong, and well provided with means of repair in case of injury. On the left of this attack there is also a small redoubt, constructed with the same object. There are some new works also on the Frenchman's-hill attack, which have not yet been opened; they are heavily armed. The large 13-inch sea service mortars have been carried more forward; it is even asserted that from their present position shells could be thrown with effect against the enemy's works on the north side of the great harbour. The fire from both these attacks has been very slack the last few days, and the Malakhoff and Mamelon works have also been comparatively silent. The fire from the French batteries on the left, and the Russian works more particularly opposed to them, has continued very active. Among our casualties, which have been on the whole remarkably few, are an officer of the 50th Regiment, Lieutenant F. Curtis, and an officer of the Royal Engineers, Lieutenant J. Carter. These deaths occurred from round shot, and took place on the Greenhill attack. An assistant-surgeon is also named as having been killed by a Minié ball, but as I have not heard this verified, I forbear mentioning the name given. He is said to have been on duty in the right attack, and that from some motive he crossed by the covered way over to the Greenhill attack, and was struck by one of the Russian riflemen as he went along. Lieutenant Carter had only lately come out, but was an especial favourite in his corps. General Jones and many officers followed his remains to the grave. His body was brought over to the siege train depot, near to which a burying-place has been laid out in a retired spot, and with particular order and neatness, by the Royal Engineers.

The bridge of boats which stretched across the south port, from the marine arsenal on the town side to a jetty below the barrack buildings on the other side, has been broken up by the Russians, and in its stead another has been constructed at a further distance from our works. The new bridge is of very great length. It crosses the Dockyard Creek and mouth of the Admiralty Harbour, and is continued on; but its termination cannot be perceived on account of a projecting point of land, together with a church and other buildings, which intercept the view. Troops are constantly passing and re-passing; for, excepting boats, it forms the only means of communication which the enemy now possess between the divided and town, and the Karabelnaia suburb. Near the centre of the bridge is a drawbridge, which, when raised, leaves an extensive gap in the roadway. This gap was left open for several hours on the 2nd instant, the day after the French attack in front of the Bastion du Mat, but for what reason was not apparent. No vessel passed through, and indeed the drawbridge, which opens in the centre, and can be lifted on either side, appears to be more for the purpose of interrupting passage, if necessary, along the bridge itself, than for forming an opening for boats to cross from one part of the port to another.

Another operation of the Russians has been the masking or destruction of the West Inkermann Lighthouse. This small building, by being brought into a line with the lighthouse, which still remains on the hill to the eastward, formerly constituted the guide to the Channel by which ships of heavy draught were compelled to enter the great harbour.

No change is observable in the force or disposition of the army on the north side.

Major-General Codrington takes command of the Light Division. During the absence on special service of General Brown, Colonel Shirley, of the 88th Regiment, takes command of the 2nd brigade.

The weather has been dry and warm since the last mail left. A strong wind was blowing from the south and south west yesterday (May 4), especially in the early part of the day. At present it is a perfect calm. The sun is now evincing great power, and all the evidences of summer are manifesting themselves. The huts are found to be of great advantage against the influence of heat as compared with tents of single canvas. Various means have been adopted to ensure a thorough ventilation by means of small openings in the sides or in the roofs, with proper protection against rain. The troops who will have to remain before Sebastopol will derive much comfort, and in all probability, sanitary benefit, from these wooden barracks.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MAY 5.

The chief topic of conversation in camp has been the sudden return, on the morning of the 5th, of the expedition, which, it was presumed, had left for the purpose of attacking Kertch. It had been previously known that a telegraphic despatch was received at head-quarters and a message sent after the fleet, but its purport was not mentioned until the fleet itself divulged it by making its appearance off Balaklava. There are various explanations to account for this abrupt change of plan, but the most commonly received is that the Emperor Napoleon has announced his coming at no distant date, and had given orders that no work of magnitude should be undertaken before his arrival. Whether the story is correct or not will be better known at home before this reaches England. There has been a general feeling of disappointment among all ranks engaged in the expedition at its recall before their work was even commenced. Moreover, the demonstration cannot but have an injurious effect as regards any future attempt in the same direction, for enough has been done to put the enemy fully on the alert respecting our intentions.

On Saturday evening, the 5th instant, the Russian St. George's-day, and more noticed in the Russian than even in the English calendar, a simultaneous attack was made on the advanced works on Frenchman's-hill. Both the branch trenches on the right and the zigzag to the left were attacked, but the enemy did not succeed in gaining any advantage. The duties for the night in question were principally furnished by the regiments of the Second Division, and a part of the 49th were holding the positions attempted to be taken. On account of their proximity to the Russian works and covering parties, no sentries are now advanced in this direction, and the watch is entrusted to picquet sentries. Judging from the accounts of the men in the works, the enemy must have crept up on "all fours," taking advantage of the darkness preceding the rising of the moon. In this way the Russians contrived to get round one of the rifle pits which was taken from them a short time since, and the first intimation of the attack was a volley poured down into the pit and the trench connecting it with the main line of the zigzag. These volleys were fired in rapid succession, the fire being evidently from different detachments of the attacking body. Before the enemy had time to reload the men of the 49th had rushed on them with the bayonet, but the force of the enemy was so superior that they were compelled to retire. The struggle commenced about half past 10 p.m., and lasted fifteen minutes. The alarm had on the first volley been given throughout the works, and the reserves collected. That in the advanced work moved forward toward the pit from which the 49th had retired, and poured in a volley; but, on a nearer approach, the Russians, it was found, had retreated. On the right the enemy were met with a cross fire, both from the branch trench, which leaves the advanced work nearly at right angles, and from the advanced work itself. They must have suffered severely, but their loss is not known, as they were able to carry off their wounded. One Russian prisoner was taken. The loss suffered by the 49th was severe—namely, 4 men killed, with 1 officer and 15 men wounded. The officer was Lieutenant George Rochfort. He received a very severe bayonet wound in the thigh, and unfortunately the wound was inflicted, it would appear, by falling against the musket of one of our own men. The main reserves were advanced in case of a renewal of the attack, but none was attempted.

On the same evening, while Captain William Trail Arnold, commanding the Light Company of the 4th King's Own, was posting advanced sentries on the left attack, he was suddenly fired upon by some troops of the enemy, and afterwards taken prisoner. It is feared he was badly wounded, for it is stated that he fell after the volley was fired; but, as the few men who were with him escaped hurriedly, and the night was dark, nothing certain is known on the subject. The Russians were lying down on the ground, had they been erect, although the moon had not risen, there was sufficient starlight to have rendered them perceptible at the short distance from which they fired. They must either have purposely concealed themselves to await the approach of the sentries, or Captain Arnold unwittingly advanced too far towards a leading body of the Russian picket. The first intimation of danger was the sudden starting up of the enemy; the volley of musketry was poured in immediately afterwards. In consequence of Captain Arnold not returning, a party went under the command of Captain Robertson of the same regiment to reconnoitre, but could not discover any trace of him. The particulars connected with his capture cannot, therefore, be known until a communication on the subject has been made with the Russian commander in the garrison. Captain Arnold had posted all but four of his sentries at the moment he was attacked, and was several paces in advance of the men; he had gone forward to examine the ground, and ascertain if the sentries could be still further advanced with prudence. It is said that since the French captured the Russian works in advance of the Flagstaff Bastion the enemy has greatly increased the outlying guards to the other works of this kind; and as the Russian rifle pits are not a great way distant from the spot where Captain Arnold was lost, it was perhaps one of these guards advanced for the purpose of their protection by whom he was taken prisoner.

There have been one or two desertions from the French lately. They have crossed the Tchernaya Valley, at its narrow part near the Inkermann ruins. It is difficult to imagine what motives can actuate these men, as they hardly can look for better treatment than they receive in their own camp. A day or two since a soldier of our own 50th Regiment, having a horse with him, was taken up by the French picket in this neighbourhood, and sent to head-quarters on suspicion that he was going to desert. He stated that he had lost his way, and was returning from purchasing some things for his master at Kamiesch. It was difficult to understand how he could have wandered so far past his division without discovering the marshes. A few days previously a servant of the colonel commandant of one of the French regiments of the line went over to the Russians, near the same locality. He not only robbed his master of a horse, but also of some 20 Napoleons, and other property. Could there not be an understanding between civilised armies, that thieves and such criminals should be mutually given up on proper evidence of their guilt being afforded? Certain international laws are made to provide for such cases, and an arrangement of the kind would be equally advantageous on both sides, between contending armies. The robberies at least, if not the desertions, would cease, perhaps, with the knowledge that they could not be committed with impunity.

The report that an assistant-surgeon had been killed on the left attack a few days since arose from the circumstance of an officer being shot who wore a forage cap with an ornament peculiar to the 20th Regiment, and who could not be recognised by any one on duty in the Greenhill attack when his death occurred. The 20th Regiment is serving at present in the Madras Presidency, and the unfortunate officer killed was at first supposed to be one of the assistant-surgeons detached from their regiments for service with the forces in the East. He subsequently proved to be, however, an officer of the 62nd, one of the regiments of the 2nd Division, Lieutenant G. Johnstone White. He had lately exchanged from the 20th Regiment to engage in active service in the Crimea, and had not had time to complete the change of uniform. He was on duty on the right attack, and what circumstance led him to go over to Greenhill must now remain a matter of surmise. He was killed by a rifle ball from one of the enemy's ambuscades, and from the nature of the wound, which was in the head, his death must have been instantaneous. A brother of the deceased, who is senior assistant-surgeon of the 47th Regiment, first recognised the body, in some measure accidentally, and the sense which followed was very painful.

There has been an increase in the number of casualties during the last few days, but they have chiefly been from rifle shots. The greater frequency of these wounds must be expected as the sharp-shooters on each side approach closer to each other. The protecting gabions, especially in the last-made portions of the approaches, are less able to resist the force of the projectiles, and the aim of the riflemen is more sure. A very constant shelling has been kept up from the Malakhoff works, and occasionally from the Mamelon. A battery near the Redan has also kept up a very active fire against a new battery on Frenchman's-hill, which is rendered conspicuous by being entirely built of sand-bags, but has not done much damage to the work.

The health of the troops continues very favourable. In one of the divisions in front, which, with the regiments attached to it, numbers 6,000 men, there are 460 sick only in the hospitals, including cases of all kinds. A few cases have occurred not unlike cholera in some of the symptoms; but they have been slight in character, quite detached, and some of the principal features of that disease have been wanting. The prevailing cause of sickness is still fever. The sanitary condition of the camps is now excellent. Tanks are continuing to be made, and every attention is paid for the preservation and careful distribution of the water. This is a most necessary provision. The weather has continued dry, warm, and favourable for operations in the field.

OUR ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MAY 12.

Nearly now has been made in our works, either on the right or left attacks, during the last few days; indeed, it is generally reported in the camps that nothing more is to be done in a forward direction until our allies have completed the necessary preparations for attacking the Kamtchatka or Mamelon redoubt. In the mean-time new batteries are being made in advanced positions, and armed with guns of very heavy calibre. Some of these new works have been observed by the enemy, who have endeavoured, by the frequent discharge of shells of large size, to interrupt their progress. They have, however, proceeded most satisfactorily. The affair, when completed, will be very materially to change the whole face and bearing of the works on both attacks; and a greater weight of metal will be found in what were the advanced works than the weight which was originally laid in the batteries of the first parallel.

The Russians have been busily occupied in deepening and adding to the connexions established between their advanced rifle pit on our right attack and the Redan. A trench also has been made to form a communication between the rifle pit and the quarry. The pit itself is very close—within a stone's throw—of the rifle pit at the end of our zigzag, to the left of the advanced work; and if a line were drawn from this to the trench proceeding from our right rifle pit, it would nearly touch the enemy's work at mid-distance. Behind the pit is a complete network of trenches, mainly leading back to the Redan, and from the second line of the zigzag a trench proceeds up to the quarry. The work in the quarry has now also a direct covered way, communicating with the Redan.

The French are actively pursuing their sap toward the Russian redoubts on the east of Careening Bay. A constant fire is directed against the French works. They are also sapping up toward the Mamelon, and some collision must shortly take place in that direction.

There is a rumour—but on what foundation I know not—that the late expedition, which was so unexpectedly recalled, will shortly make a fresh start. It can hardly proceed under such favourable auspices as the former, now that the enemy have had ocular demonstration of our plans and intentions. It is indeed to be regretted that the interruption occurred to that undertaking: so many circumstances combined to ensure success.

The Russians made another attack in considerable force in the night between the 9th and 10th instant against the new advanced works on our right attack (Frenchman's-hill). They were gallantly repulsed, and must have suffered great loss, whilst our list of casualties was comparatively small, viz., one man killed, and one officer and thirteen men wounded. Nearly every regiment of the Light Division had parties in the trenches, but the brunt of the fighting fell more particularly on the men of the 88th and 34th Regiments, who were in the right boyau and rifle pit, and others of the 7th and 90th Regiments, who were in our left zigzag approach, and the Russian rifle-pit which some time since was taken and connected with it. The attack commenced soon after twelve p.m. at the right boyau and centre rifle pit. Few stars were visible on account of black heavy masses of clouds which were passing overhead, and the night was dark. The air was close, and a few drops of rain fell occasionally. Notwithstanding the darkness, some of the enemy's skirmishers, who had been sent forward to feel the way, were perceived; and our men were quickly ready to receive them. A short time elapsed when orders were given to fire, and a volley was sent from the trenches. The enemy essayed to come forward, but another volley quickly succeeding the first kept them from the trench. Volley after volley was then fired from the boyau, from the centre rifle pit and the trench which has been extended from it to the left, and from part of the old advanced work itself. The fire of the Russians was scattered and irregular; they had evidently met with a reception for which they were not prepared. The flashes of our lines of musketry sufficiently illumined the foreground to show a dense column of the enemy at some little distance in rear of the troops who had advanced to attack the trenches. The fire had been kept up for about fifteen minutes, the enemy, held at bay, had not been able to come nearer than twenty or thirty yards from the works, when a lull took place, and on the impulse of the moment a shout was set up by some of our men which was taken up along the whole line, and made itself heard all over the camp in front. The Connaught Rangers had the credit of commencing this cheer. Even the Muscovites seemed surprised, and either expecting a sally on our part, or in consequence of finding the undertaking hopeless, hastily retired.

Soon after the attack against the right of the Frenchman's-hill works commenced, a sortie was made by other troops against the left of the same line, and also against the right of the new works on the Greenhill attack. On the left of the line there was the same alertness among the men of the 7th and 90th Regiments as on the right, and the enemy were as quickly repulsed. On neither side were the Russians ever able to come close to, much less to enter the rifle pits or trenches.

On the right of the Greenhill attack a large working party was engaged in connecting the rifle pits which had been established on the brow of the hill overhanging the valley of the left ravine, as it turns round toward the south harbour. Between us and the enemy in this position the ground is open, and formed by the slope of Greenhill itself, the ravine below with the Worontzoff road, and the opposite slope ascending toward the Russian quarry and Redan hill works. The enemy are compelled, therefore, to form for attack in an exposed position a short way from the ground occupied by our works. On the Frenchman's-hill attack the enemy have the power of forming behind the trenches which have lately been made to connect their advanced rifle pits with the Redan, and can therefore in a great measure conceal their movements. Not so on the left attack, and here they were detected by some of our sentries who had been, thrown out in front, and who gave notice that the Russians were about to advance on the work. Their observation being verified, the working parties were called in, the tools placed in security, and the troops formed in line. The enemy came as was expected, but finding the proper precautions against them so complete, and the advantage of ground being wholly in our possession, they soon abandoned the contest.

The several divisions near the works attacked were turned out, and got under arms, as the heavy fire of the musketry, and the discharge from the enemy's batteries, announced a very determined sortie. The Pretobrajensky, sent some troops forward. They advanced some distance toward their lines, keeping up a roll of drums and sounding their trumpets to announce, perhaps, the approach of reinforcements. As soon as the attack began, the enemy sent a vast number of shells against our batteries, and in the directions along which they might suppose the supports would be advancing, but they did very little injury. Our batteries scarcely replied, but some shells were sent among the Russian troops who were engaged in the sortie.

The loss of the Russians at all points must have been severe; for in the right attack where the contest was most prolonged and heavy, a cross fire from the trenches leading from the advanced work was thrown in among them, which could not have failed in causing considerable havoc. It is also probable that some of the shells thrown from our batteries did execution among the reserves who were massed together. Fourteen bodies were seen lying around our works when daylight permitted observation. This is no guide to the total loss, as the Russians are very careful, not only to remove their wounded, but also as many of their dead as they can, immediately after an engagement, for the purpose, it would appear, of preventing note being taken of the real extent of their losses. A flag of truce was afterwards hoisted at the usual time, and the Russians came forward, and took those bodies which remained in the ground away for burial. On our side the 34th had one officer and five men wounded, the 88th one man killed and three wounded, the 90th two wounded, and the 7th Fusiliers three wounded. The officer hit was Lieutenant Malcolm Lawrence, and his escape was very narrow, as the ball struck him, glanced across the forehead, inflicting a wound on the bone in its passage. Col. Trollope, commanding one of the brigades of the Second Division, was in command in the trenches on this occasion. None of our men were wounded in the left attack.

It is a matter of surprise that more fire balls or carcases are not used in front of the trenches on dark nights. In case of such an attack as the one above mentioned, they would be very useful, not only to show the force and disposition of the enemy, but also to give our own troops a knowledge of the proper direction for their fire. Out of the small number wounded on the night of the 9th instant, no less than three men, it is stated, were wounded by their own comrades. One man of the 7th Fusiliers in the left zig-zag was shot by an English Minie ball, and was, moreover, found to have the muzzle-plug of the rifle embedded in the wound. Some soldier in the first excitement of the attack had forgotten to remove the stopper of the musket, and had consequently fired in the direction of the advanced rifle pit, in which were a party of men of the 7th Fusiliers. Such accidents would probably be prevented by the discharge of two or three fireballs at the beginning of the affair, or when an approach of the enemy was suspected. We have throughout the siege been very sparing in the use of these missiles, but they are more than ever required now that the trenches are so advanced, and that sorties may be expected to be of frequent occurrence.

On the evening of the 10th instant, about 10 p.m., the enemy made a slight sortie again, apparently to reconnoitre and ascertain if our men were as much on the alert as they had been on the previous night. Several volleys were fired from the advanced works, and no attack followed. But the Russians kept up a very constant fusillade the whole night from the advanced rifle pit and trenches, without, however, producing any effect against our men: what casualties there were occurred from shells. One of these, either a 10 inch or 13 inch shell, fell among a group of soldiers of the 90th regiment, and at its explosion killed two, and wounded five others. The Russians have thrown a vast number of shells during the last three or four days against our works and those of the French. This forms such a contrast with their sparing use of them for two or three weeks previously, that it can only be accounted for by supposing that they have received fresh supplies of them in considerable numbers. There is also reason to suppose that many more mortars have reached them, for a large proportion of the bombs thrown now are of heavier weight than they used to be. Convoys are seen constantly arriving on the north side, and the passage of steamers and lighters proceeds without interruption day and night from the north to the south side of the Great Harbour. A few days since a large body of troops were seen marching toward an encampment which is just above the north shore of the roadstead, below the Star Fort, and the sound of their drums and bands was plainly audible at intervals on the higher points of our own position.

An unfortunate accident occurred to a man of the 9th Regiment on the morning following the sortie of the 9th inst. He was moving along the brow of the Greenhill attack, intending to go to an advanced party of sharpshooters near the ravine, but missed his way and got into the open ground, without for some time discovering his mistake. He was observed from certain parts of the right attack, and it was there suspected that he was a deserter. The Russian riflemen, who also perceived him, appear to have adopted the same idea, for they permitted him to advance without interruption. Suddenly the man observed some of the troops on Frenchman's-hill were watching him closely, and his attention once roused by this circumstance, he looked around anxiously to discover his position. His mistake was soon ascertained, and he turned in haste to rectify it. But he had no sooner begun to retrace his steps, than one of the Russian riflemen fired, and the ball with fatal accuracy brought him to the ground. He was soon writhing with pain, and yet still endeavouring to get away, although manifestly unable to accomplish his purpose. This perilous position of the poor fellow induced four men on the right attack to volunteer to try and bring him in, and taking advantage of any little cover the ground would afford, they proceeded to make the attempt. But they had hardly reached half the distance when the Russians perceived the movement, and fired at them also. One of the four men received a ball in the leg, and the other three were compelled to seek shelter in a small cave or hole in the side of the hollow. Here they remained till the flag of truce about half-past 12 o'clock, enabled them to return to Frenchman's-hill without risk. The soldier whom they had started to assist was then quite dead.

The 3rd Buffs and 71st Highlanders are now encamped on some ground in rear of the Second and Fourth Divisions. They are to be formed for the present into a separate brigade, under the command of Colonel C. Van Straubenzee, of the 3rd Regiment. They will take their tour of duty in equal division between the left and right attacks. The 12th Lancers have also landed, and joined the Light Cavalry Brigade. It has been a matter of surprise that this regiment, as well as the 10th Hussars, are to be reduced in numbers to the home establishment. They have arrived, in respect both to men and horses, of the full strength, as on the Indian establishment; and, considering the previous weak state of that branch of the army to which they belong, their arrival in such an effective condition was welcomed as a most seasonable reinforcement. To reduce them now, while the other cavalry regiments remain so diminished in numbers, would appear to be a very impracticable proceeding, and scarcely credible, but it is positively asserted that it is the intention to accomplish this purpose at once. Those men who choose are to volunteer for service in other regiments; such men as do not wish to serve elsewhere are to be sent home. Captain Gibbon's 9-pounder battery, lately arrived, has been attached to the Fourth Division.

There has been a great change in the weather since the last mail left. A particularly close and oppressive state of the atmosphere on the morning of Wednesday, the 9th instant, was succeeded in the afternoon by a succession of sudden strong whirls of wind and dust spiralling towards the north. Rain fell in the evening, and at intervals during the following night and morning. There was promise of finer weather during the afternoon of the 10th, but heavy showers of rain, with strong wind from the south and south-west, came on during the night, and have continued almost uninterruptedly since. During last night—May 11th-12th, the wind rose several times to a complete gale, and a considerable depth of rain fell in heavy showers.

Several cases, not unlike cholera, have occurred in some of the French regiments, and a few isolated instances have also been met with in two or three of the English regiments. But the general health of the troops continues favourable, and severe cases of sickness form the exceptions in the field hospitals. A Sanitarium for the reception of convalescents from sickness is about to be established on the open high ground near the Monastery. This is a very desirable object, for the Sanitarium above Balaklava has been devoted to the reception of men recovering from wounds; and invalids, therefore, who perhaps required only a few days' change of air to re-establish their health, have been sent away to Scutari or Smyrna. The general hospital establishment formed in the huts in rear of the Third Division, near the Sailors' Ravine, has been scarcely at all employed; the space being reserved in case of a sudden increase in the number of wounded.

DISPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

(FROM A SUPPLEMENT TO THE GAZETTE OF TUESDAY.)

War Department, May 28.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosure, of which the following are copies, addressed to his lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, May 12, 1855.

My Lord,—I do myself the honour to acquaint your lordship that General de la Marmora, with a portion of the Sardinian contingent, arrived off Balaklava on the night of the 8th instant, and he done up to head-quarters the following morning.

The very unfavourable state of the weather since the 9th has prevented any material part of the force being landed; and it has been found necessary to send the vessels that brought it, and which could not be got into the harbour, to Kamish Bay, until it should moderate.

Five troops of the 12th Lancers landed on the 9th from the Himalaya, which performed the voyage from Alexandria to Balaklava in ninety-four hours.

The enemy made two serious assaults upon our most advanced parallel of the night attack on the night of the 9th, but were on each occasion most nobly met, and repulsed with considerable loss.

The arrangements of Colonel Trollope, who had charge of the right attack, and Lieutenant-Colonel Maude, the field-officer of the trenches, were most judicious; and Captain Turner, of the Royal Fusiliers, and Captain Jordan, of the 30th Regiment, are reported to have done their duty in the most gallant manner.

They opened a powerful fire on our trenches on the following night, and exposed their columns to a heavy musketry fire from the troops on duty. They did not, however, reach the parapets, nor indeed come very near them.

Last night a very determined sortie was made upon the advance of our left attack. The enemy moved forward in two columns from the Worontzoff road. Our advanced sentries having slowly retired, the guard of the trenches was prepared to receive them, and consequently drove them back in the most determined manner. A few Russians only got into the parallel, and five were left dead there upon it.

The conduct of both officers and men was admirable, and it is with deep regret that I have to report the death of Captain Edwards, of the 88th Foot, and that of five men.

I have also the pain of saying that the wounded amount to thirty.

Owing to the great quantity of rain which has fallen during the last few days, the service in the trenches has again been most arduous and severe upon our men, who deserve all praise for their energy and unfailing perseverance.

I enclose the returns of casualties to the 10th instant.

I have, &c.,
RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c. &c.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, May 15.

During the last few nights the Russians have taken advantage of the darkness and made attempts to get into our works for the purpose of committing any injuries they might find the opportunity of inflicting upon them. These sorties have fortunately been wholly unsuccessful as to the objects intended, and, though attended with loss by us, have produced still greater loss on the assailants. When there is sufficient darkness to conceal their movements the enemy frequently sends scouts toward our works to reconnoitre. Ordinarily if a weak or neglected point is found, an attack follows; but, if our men are observed to be on the alert, it is deferred.

On the night of the 11th instant a sortie was made in force against our left attack, while a feint was made at the same time against our right with the evident motive of distracting attention. There was a high wind blowing at the time, and rain had been falling nearly the whole day. The attack was made chiefly against a portion of the advanced works, which were guarded at the time by men of the 57th and 49th Regiments, the former being most engaged in the contest. The Russians contrived to get up the brow of the hill unperceived, and it was not till they were close upon the trench that their approach was understood. A sharp fight followed, and some of the enemy twice managed to get into our trench, but they were on both occasions driven out with loss. In this affair Captain Lloyd Edwards, of the 68th Regiment, lately promoted to the charge of a company, was killed. There were also four men killed and twenty wounded of the same regiment. Three men of the 49th Regiment were wounded. The Russian loss is not known, for nearly all their wounded and many of their dead were removed at the time or soon after the attack. One Russian prisoner, who was wounded, had a barbed steel instrument in his possession for spiking a gun.

It is stated that the loss in the 68th regiment was increased by difficulty having been experienced in discharging their rifles. In some instances the ramrods had become "wood-bound" from the long continued rain, and in others the pieces missed fire or account of the caps or nipple-tubes having become damp or clogged.

The British soldiers do not, as a general rule, take the same amount of interest in protecting their firelocks and always having them in order for immediate use, that other troops seem to do, especially troops who have been used to active service in the field. In our trenches the barrels of the muskets may be constantly seen leaning against the parapets, and, in rainy weather, damp earth and wet must no doubt frequently find their way into the chambers, and bores of the nipples. It is only lately, since a school of musketry has been established, that anything like a sportsman's care of the weapon has been inculcated as a regular part of a soldier's instruction. The Russians have a small leather nipple-cover attached to every rifle, to guard more completely against the intrusion of damp or dust; and their percussion caps are protected in the cap-pockets by each side-opening of the pocket being very closely fitted to its fellow, and, moreover, by pleating to a certain depth within the aperture a lining of fur. A bird might also be taken from their muzzle-stoppers, which consist of little more than a pointed piece of stick with a button at the broad end. But the broad end beneath the button is encircled by a rim of coarse cloth where it touches the inner circumference of the muzzle, and is thus made to adapt itself very nicely, so that all dirt and foreign matter are completely excluded; while, if by accident left in when the firelock is discharged, their hold below this narrow rim is so slight that no mischief can happen to the weapon. Ours is more highly finished, and neater in appearance; but from the elasticity and spring of the steel wood, its hold within the piece is much stronger—too strong, if the wood become swollen from the effects of damp. Moreover, if the firelock is discharged while the stopper remains in, as occasionally happens with young soldiers called upon for the suddenly, the explosive force extends itself, and drives the separate parts of the wood internally against the barrel, which is generally sent asunder by the force that exerted against it. This cannot happen with the tapering muzzle-stopper used by the Russians.

On the night between the 12th and 13th the enemy on two occasions approached our advanced works, but speedily retired on finding our troops waiting to receive them. The attempts were made chiefly against the advanced works on the French man's-hill attack. On the first occasion our men, finding that the Russians went back after the first volley, set up a loud cheer, in which the French on the right joined. This cheering has been denounced in general orders (excepting in case of a charge), for it is calculated to bring down a fire from the enemy's large guns upon the position whence the cheering proceeds, and the men have been warned against repeating it.

There has been no progress made in our approaches towards the defences of the fortress, for we cannot proceed further until the French operations against the Kamtschatka lunette and Malakhoff works are more advanced. These operations are continued with vigour, and, it is hoped, will shortly clear the way for our further advance in front. In the mean time our breaching batteries and new mortar batteries are progressing rapidly.

The nature of the movements which may be expected to take place shortly remains a profound secret. It is rumoured that a part of the Sardinian contingent will take up a position on the points toward Kamara, when the redoubts were which the Russians gained from the Ottoman troops at the battle of Balaklava. This is all surmise. The Sardinians who have landed at Balaklava are encamped at present near the village of Karani. They are fine, active, well-equipped men, and express a high respect for the British, with whom they are more especially to act. Many of their officers can speak French, and some few among them speak English. An order has been given by Lord Raglan to his own troops for every officer immediately to provide himself with the authorised number of bât horses. This indicates marching somewhere, and it is quite certain that the vast army which will very shortly be assembled here cannot remain long in this position. But what particular part of the force will make the move, what remains to protect our basis of operations, and carry on the siege operations—in what direction the expeditionary troops will proceed,—all these things are known only to the respective commanders and admirals, and will only transpire when the arrangements are about to be carried into effect. The Russians have seemingly given up their hold in the direction of Kamara, though no doubt the approaches to the Baidar district are guarded beyond, and are devoting themselves to strengthening the defences about Tchorgunia and the line of heights from thence, and the various approaches from the Tchernaya valley, toward the position occupied by the army on the north side of Sebastopol. The valley of the Tchernaya is at present completely flooded, and can only be travelled over by the roads which skirt the base of the hills on either side.

The rain ceased on the 13th instant, and the weather has been fine since. So much wet had fallen that the mud on the plain began to assume the appearance with which all were so familiar during the past winter. This, and particularly the state of the trenches, has led to an increase in the sickness among the troops engaged in the siege operations, more especially among the new comers. The number of cholera cases became greatly increased. They have again diminished since the fine weather set in. The 3rd Buffs, and some other regiments, lately arrived, suffered particularly. The First Division, which remains near Balaklava, and does not take part in the trench duties, it is said, has escaped altogether.

Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell has, at his own request, been relieved from the duties of Commandant of Balaklava. The military arrangements for the defence of the position will, however, be retained by him, while Colonel Harding will exercise all the general duties connected with the town and neighbouring bazaar of Kamara. This bazaar, so rapid has been the growth of wooden and iron structures, might now well assume the title of town in preference to Balaklava, for it greatly exceeds it in the number of houses and extent of ground covered.

No convoys have been observed to approach the north side of the harbour for some days past. It is probable that the Russian roads have suffered from the continuous rain to an extent sufficient to impede the progress of vehicles. A large body of troops marched down to the opposite side of the Great Harbour on the 12th inst.

Among the amusements in camp the 2nd Regiment of Zouaves have established a theatre. The performances, by the men of the regiment, take place twice a week, and are excellently arranged. The prices of admission are voluntary, and the funds devoted to the benefit of the French prisoners in Sebastopol and elsewhere.

May 19.

The camp has been rife with rumours during the last few days, and, as not unfrequently happens, of the most opposite tendencies. At one time peace was certain, the highest authorities being quoted to substantiate the assertion. Bets to a heavy amount had been offered that the negotiations would be concluded within a given period; Lord John Russell had gone back to Vienna, and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe had also proceeded there, and everything was advancing satisfactorily. It is useless to attempt to analyse these reports, or to reconcile them with conflicting news which may have arrived from ordinary sources. The latest date from England by the mail received yesterday is May 6th, so that the authorities who are in possession of the telegraphic cipher, and the favoured few who are honoured with the droppings of intelligence which are permitted to ooze from this source, are a fortnight in advance of the main body of the army in respect to information.

Active operations in the field have also been talked of, and many circumstances have concurred to produce the belief that a portion of the British force is shortly to leave the part of the Crimea. The troops named are the First and Light Divisions. The place of destination is supposed not to have been mentioned, and various points of landing in the Crimea and elsewhere have been talked of as equally probable. With most persons a renewal of the expedition against Kertch has been surmised to be the object. In the Highland Brigade the belief prevailed that they were to have embarked this day; and this was said to be on the authority of Sir Colin Campbell, who, having resigned the situation of commandant of Balaklava, will now be free to accompany the regiments over which he holds command. The Ottoman troops have left, it is understood to rejoin the force assembled at Kapatcha. The Highlanders, and those of the Ottomans who have been engaged in the defence of Balaklava, are, it is said, to be replaced by the Sardinians, as are also the Light Division in the trench duties of the right attack. Due notice has been given to the troops to complete themselves in the necessary field equipment, and the Commissariat has also received instructions to be in readiness. Yesterday (May 18), Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown inspected the whole of his division, and the artillery batteries attached, on the open space in front of the Picket-house. The condition of all the regiments was very satisfactory, but the men suffered from the heat, which was intense; the thermometer ranging from 90 deg. F. to 99 deg. F. in the tents. To-day it is understood that the departure of the troops is for the present postponed. The Sardinians are unwilling to take trench duties, and there is not, under existing circumstances, a sufficient British force to carry on the siege operations, assist in the defence of Balaklava, and at the same time spare one or two divisions for an undertaking elsewhere.

The Sardinians who have landed are much admired. Their clothing and appointments are neat, substantial, and well adapted for service in the field. They carry with them herds of cattle, like the French. In their waggon train and ambulance establishment they seem to have adopted all the recent improvements, and to have borrowed largely from the results of French experience. The men generally are stout, active, young, and wear the appearance of good health; the riflemen and the Grenadier Regiment of the Guard particularly attracted notice in this respect. They are encamped on the sloping sides of the extensive valley of Karani, the only other troops there being the English 32-pounder battery.

On the 15th instant a very large force was observed to be marching along the coast road, to join the army on the heights north of Sebastopol. By reports from some of the ships as many as 50,000 troops were moving in this direction. It is quite evident, from the much greater extent occupied by the encampments, and particularly the increase in number of the field batteries, that very considerable reinforcements have arrived. It was supposed, when first notice was given of the approach of so large a force, that an attack was contemplated, and instructions were given for the troops guarding the trenches to be constantly on the alert. Some of the divisions in front were also kept under arms for a great part of the night. Nothing unusual, however, occurred. The following day, May 16, several large convoys of corn and forage were seen on the north heights. At one time there could not have been less than four hundred country arabas, each drawn by two oxen, on the high ground near the encampment. A little below, and to the west of the Star Fort, is a large commissariat depot. In addition to some very large sheds, covered by red-tiled roofs, which have been observed to be storehouses, and a little on one side of them, are two huge heaps of sacks, probably containing corn. They are stacked up in a pyramidal form. To these stacks a line of one hundred and forty arabas were conveying similar sacks, and as each cart was relieved of its load, it passed away in another line with equal regularity. A number of men could be noticed busily employed in arranging the sacks, and connecting them with the pyramidal stacks, as fast as they were deposited on the ground. Higher up the hill, and to the east of the Star Fort, another line of arabas moved from the direction of Mackenzie's Farm, and were lost to view as they passed behind a prominence at the brow of the slope. They were bringing forage. In a third place were collected a large number of arabas, drawn up in regular rows, and stationary, and, as far as could be judged by the telescope, laden with gabions. Perhaps they might be intended to remain there, and be brought across at night.

There has been no particular event of importance during the last week in the trenches. Our casualties have been few. It is doubtful whether new troops would escape with so much impunity, for cautious under fire, and knowledge of the best means of taking advantage of the shelter afforded by the works are, like superiority in most other matters, only to be acquired by practice. The French continue on the right, sapping up to the Russian redoubts on the east of Careening Bay, and also toward the Mamelon Vert. Our works are for the moment not advancing, but the new batteries are nearly completed, and large stores of ammunition are continually going to the front.

The enemy has now completed a third redoubt in the east cliff above Careening Bay, nearer to the shore of the Great Harbour. It is pierced with five embrasures. Its fire is directed against the French batteries on the same line of hill. The works of our allies in this position are subjected to a very severe fire, not only from the redoubts in their front, but also from a powerful work on the west side of Careening Bay, on the height immediately above the harbour, and from some of the guns of the Kamtschatka Redoubt. The French reply vigorously, and have lately added some new works to silence this opposition. The progress of their sap does not appear to be much impeded, notwithstanding that the Russians have two very large ambu-cades, and numerous others of smaller size, filled with riflemen, in front of their foremost redoubt, for the purpose of interrupting its advance.

The Russians are working with the greatest energy at protecting the approaches by which a force would have to pass from our present position toward Baktchi-Serai. The reports of spies and deserters that all the heights are being fortified and defiles protected, are confirmed by such observations as can be made from the site of this plateau. As far as the eye can reach, looking in a north-easterly direction, ridge after ridge is seen to be occupied by detachments of troops, although from the distance and the dense woods which cover the hills in this direction, little can be decided as to the strength of each detachment. But from the opening to the valley of Tchorgunia—near to which point the enemy's defences against an attack from the plain now begin—along the lower range of hill in the direction of the Khutor Mankaupe road about two miles, and thence, running west ward, along the mountains to the encampment of the army on the north side of the roadstead, the enemy's works are under direct observation. This comprehends a wide sweep of country, in the general form of an arc. There are two points of view from which this tract can be inspected with advantage. One of these is obtained by looking up the plain in a northerly direction from the heights above Balaklava on the east side; the other, by looking across the plain from our position over Inkermann and from our right flank occupied by General Bosquet's corps of observation. From the former a more complete general view of the whole position is gained; from the latter a more distinct view of the works completed and in progress.

Taking a position there toward the Inkermann end of our right flank, the Tchernaya valley, and the very tortuous river from which it takes its name, are seen at our feet. The general turn of this place is

square. It is enclosed on the north side by precipitous cliffs, towards the south by an isolated hill of irregular form, rising from the plain and dividing the Tchernaya from the Balaklava valley, and to the eastward by the lowermost of four ranges of mountains which rise successively one above the other, and receding from the limit to the range of vision in that direction. The fourth side is formed by the cliffs on the summit of which our position is taken. The area thus enclosed is about six or seven square miles in extent, and the river crossing it in a diagonal direction divides it nearly into two equal parts. The portion nearest to our position is the most flat and marshy, and at present, from the effects of the late rains, is impassable: on the other side of the river there is a slight declivity, and the ground seems to be more firm. Three openings lead out of the valley—one at the south-eastern angle, where the river enters, and by which the passage to Tchorgun in one direction or to Balaklava in another is made; a second, through which the river finds its way to the Inkermann valley; and lastly a third, at the north eastern angle, where the road passes out to Khutor Mackenzie. The river is most tortuous, and the plain at present most inundated as it approaches the Inkermann valley. It has been supposed that the extensive marshes in this situation might become the source of fever to our troops. For tunately the plateau on which they are encamped is at a considerable height above them, and the prevailing winds, which sweep so freely across it from the seaward, tend to carry the noxious vapours in an opposite direction.

The whole of the Tchernaya valley is now deserted, excepting on the opposite side, where the high road between Balaklava and Bakshi-Serai passes. Along this road there is a frequent passage of vehicles and troops, for the purposes of communication between the detached force at Tchorgun and the main body near Sebastopol. The rest of the plain seems to be given up to countless myriads of frogs, whose continual chattering and croaking announces for a wide distance round the fact of their possession of the territory in question. About two miles from the Tchargat opening the Bakshi-Serai road is lost to view. From the mountains to the east of Balaklava it can still be seen passing along the gorge, then gradually ascending, cut in the sides of the cliff, till it reaches the summit of the high ground above. But from our flank position, the mountain, whose steep cliff forms the northern boundary of the Tchernaya valley, completely conceals the road from view, as soon as it has reached its north-eastern angle. This mountain, which is just now the scene of some important labours on the part of the enemy, is generally tabular above, is covered with wood among which scarcely any high trees are to be seen, and has a very gradual inclination from the eastward down towards the head of the great roadstead of Sebastopol. Here it terminates in a comparatively low cliff, and, at the verge of the slope overhanging this cliff are the remains of the unfinished fortress known as the Inkermann Ruins. It is in the perpendicular face of the rock below the ruins, that art has converted the natural caves of the limestone cliff into dwelling-places, in the middle of which the arched windows and jutting balcony of a church still form a prominent object of interest to the spectator. The general superficies of the mountain is triangular in form, the base, the highest part, being the more distant, and the apex being the Inkermann cliff just mentioned. A road passes along each side, both ends being in communication with the Bakshi-Serai road which follows the line of its base. The road at the south side diverges from the main road at the opposite side of the Tchernaya valley, crosses its north-eastern portion, then gets under the cliffs, and follows closely their windings, to avoid the marshes, as far as the Inkermann valley, where several roads cross. When the Russians first sent a force into the plain near Balaklava, and before we took complete possession of the right, this was the ordinary route of communication between the detachments and the troops in and about Sebastopol; but they can make use of it no longer. The French sharpshooters, from their hiding-places, on the extreme spurs of our position on the right, can pick off any one with hardihood enough to attempt to pass along it, and certain guns in the redoubts now occupying part of the ground where the battle of Inkermann was fought, also command it. The road on the north side passes for some distance along a ravine, which serves to separate this Inkermann mountain from the rest of the mountain plateau stretching toward the Belbec, then mounts to the top of the wooded table land, and joins the Bakshi-Serai road, after it also has ascended the cliffs, a little south and west of Khutor Mackenzie. It was between this point of the road and Khutor Mackenzie itself that the debris of the baggage train fallen in with by the British force soon after emerging from the woods on the march from the Belbec to Balaklava were chiefly strewed about. This road is still used, but another road has been made further to the north, to establish a direct communication between Khutor Mackenzie and the northern camps without necessity of descending into the low ground near Inkermann or elsewhere. The north wall, as it may be called, of the Tchernaya valley, or the gorges at either end, would be the first approaches to be carried in case of a direct attack from the plain against the entrenched position of the army of the north. To provide against a passage being forced by the west gorge, or Inkermann valley, the enemy has constructed no less than eight earth batteries on the north side, whose guns will bear upon the valley itself or the ascent from it to the high ground above; and some of the vessels in the harbour, if not otherwise employed, could also use their guns against an attack in this direction. The road from the valley to the heights is steep, but broad and in good order. It winds along the side of a ravine, and at various points is swept by the fire of some of the batteries above. Near the commencement of the road, on the side of the hill which flanks it towards the great harbour, has been cut a deep trench, with a regular series of zigzag approaches, as a cover for infantry. In attempting to force a passage by the valley at the other end of the mountain, where the high road to Bakshi-Serai pursues its course, several obstacles would have to be encountered. The passage by Tchorgun would first have to be forced, and several batteries and works have been erected, both on the plain and the hills, in this direction, to prevent the accomplishment of this undertaking. On passing the opening to Tchorgun, a square fort, mounting seven guns in the face and three on either flank, placed at a little elevation above the high road, would next oppose its fire. Near it is also a battery of field artillery. These obstacles near Tchorgun might be avoided by a more direct approach from our right flank, but the marshes of the Tchernaya valley intervene, and a battery on the verge of the cliffs above has been placed, and at this moment is being extended, to guard against a movement from this direction. The east gorge itself is, moreover, protected by a series of works. Part of these can be seen on the side of the mountain, where a projecting angle just hides this part of the valley from our view; and no doubt there are other batteries beyond.

The ascent of the mountain itself is only practicable at two or three points, and these of course are especially guarded. The side looking upon the Tchernaya consists generally of white precipitous cliffs of limestone, but two extensive spurs jut out into the valley. One of these forms the angle behind which the Bakshi-Serai road is last to view; the other is intermediate, between this and the Inkermann valley. As seen from our own position at Inkermann, the nearer and most prolonged of the two spurs offers little natural difficulty to the ascent; while near its junction with the main body of the mountain there is a gently lowered dip in the cliff line, and here a smooth grassy sward facilitates a passage from the brow of the spur to the top of the mountain. But the enemy has noticed this also, and across the sward before-mentioned has excavated a broad and very deep dyke to intercept the passage. A small battery of three field pieces is placed close behind this dyke, and a little way further on is an encampment of huts for infantry. The arms of the men, piled in regular rows, are on the covered ground in front of each line of huts, ready for immediate use. The furthermost spur seems especially guarded. There is first a strong shuttle work drawn across it, above this again is a high parapet and ditch, and still higher a well constructed battery in which five embrasures can be counted. A large infantry encampment is close at hand. Part of a wide and well beaten road can be seen on the slope of this spur; it passes up to the table of the mountain above, and soon reaches one of the principal signal stations, placed on a point commanding a view of the whole plain to Balaklava in one direction, and up the valley towards Khutor Mackenzie in another. There are two signal posts, one fitted with stays and lanyards, for day signals by flags, the other for hoisting lanterns at night. These huts for the men in charge are by their side; a line of signal posts of a like kind are placed at intervals along the mountain towards Sebastopol; and there is communication by similar means with Tchorgun. No doubt a third line is also established from this point to Bakshi-Serai. The road is seen beyond the signal station, but is soon lost to view in the wood.

About half way between the nearer spur and the

Inkermann ruins, on the very verge of the cliff, is a battery of ten guns, five of which are directed against the redoubts occupied by the French at Inkermann, while the remainder sweep a portion of the Tchernaya valley. The fire from these latter guns is frequently directed against the French fatigue parties while getting wood or water from below the Canrobert redoubt. Considerable numbers of the enemy are now actively employed in repairing the parapets and embrasures of this work, which seem to have been injured by the late rain, and also in extending it in a direction towards Inkermann. To the north of this, at about 600 yards distance, on a more elevated position, the enemy is busily engaged in constructing a new work. One fore, looking towards our position at Inkermann, is already marked with eight embrasures.

It will thus be observed that many of the new works of the enemy are so placed as to act for defensive purposes against an approach from the south, and also for offensive purposes against the position of the allies on the extreme right. Commencing from the redoubts east of Canrobert Hay, following the line of works on the verge of the cliffs over the north side of the upper part of the roadstead, on the height north of the Inkermann valley, and terminating on the cliffs above the Tchernaya valley, the eye sees a succession of batteries from which a converging fire can be brought to radiate upon the works constructed to protect the north-eastern angle of our position; just as the works of the allies form the segment of a larger circle than the works of the enemy around the town and suburbs.

Along the whole line of mountain facing the Tchernaya on the north the number of troops has been greatly increased of late. During the winter two small pickets only could be seen, placed so as best to observe our movements on the right flank; now the huts of two large encampments are visible, and a battery of artillery, in addition to those already named. All the active employments of an army are going on before our eyes. As with the main army on the north side of the great harbour, very little drilling or parade inspection seems to be instituted; but in all directions work is going on. The men labour without coats or jackets, and seem to wear some linen trowsers: some wear loose blouses. The officers, as they give directions, can be distinguished by their long grey surtout coats. In addition to the fatigue parties at the batteries, others seem to be collecting sticks for fascines and gabions; others cutting the bush and clearing spaces for the more free movement of troops. All the ordinary camp occupations of cooking, washing, and clothes drying may be observed. One peculiarity with respect to the arms piled in front of the camp grounds is worthy of notice—each pile of muskets is capped by a conical cover, in shape like a common extinguisher, no doubt for the protection of the weapons against rain.

The force near the entrance to Tchorgun seems to be lessened. Two large hut camps on the Balaklava side have been abandoned, and the troops which remain seem little more in number than would actually be required to work the guns in the several batteries on this position, and line the trenches which have been cut in the side of the hill on the Tchernaya side. Reserves may be at hand, but concealed from view, for the view extends but a short way up the valley itself, being interrupted by the natural irregularities of the neighbouring hills.

The north side of the harbour, with its immensely increased fortifications, its enormous magazines and depôts, which are daily seen in course accession, is now regarded as the great stronghold of the Russians in this part of the Crimea, for were Sebastopol taken this would still remain intact; and the efforts of the enemy, such as I have described, to protect an approach to that position, show with what determination every avenue leading to it will be contested. A general survey of the enemy's preparations leads to the supposition that the policy of the allies will be not to make a direct attack upon them, but for the present, at least, to operate in a circuit far wider than that which is represented by the operations of the enemy.

During the last few days the weather has been dry, but excessively hot and oppressive during the day time. A few cases of cholera are still occurring, and the disease seems to be chiefly confined among men who have been on duty in the trenches. No cases have occurred, it is stated, among the troops at Balaklava. The regiments lately come to the front, the 3rd, 71st, and 48th, have had several cases occurring in each of them. The ground of their encampment became exceedingly muddy during the rain which preceded the present hot weather, and as drainage could not conveniently be effected, they have shifted their position to the hill in rear of the third division, from which there is on all sides a considerable amount of natural declivity. A few cases have also occurred among the sailors in the adjoining ravine, and it has been arranged that they also shall move and encamp on higher ground. Fever has also been on the increase, evidently attributable to causes connected with the altered temperature and state of the weather. I regret to say that Miss Nightingale has been attacked with this disease. She has been removed from board ship, and is now occupying one of the huts of the Sanitarium on the Castle-hill. According to yesterday's report she was progressing favourably, and no fears were experienced respecting her early recovery.

An intimation has appeared in general orders of May the 17th, that the hospital sergeants and orderlies, while serving in the Crimea, are to receive an increased pay, in consequence of the severe duties to which they are subjected. Hitherto the pay of the hospital sergeants, notwithstanding the exposure and responsibility of their position, and the nature of their duties entailing labour by night as well as day, has only been an allowance of 6d. per diem, while any non-commissioned officer taken as a clerk to a brigade or other staff office, with simply an easy day's work in writing and copying, receives 1s. 6d. or 1s. per diem. The sergeants appointed to assist the provost marshal each receive—also according to general order—4s. 8d. per diem in addition to their ordinary pay. The hospital sergeants, according to the general order, are for the future to have 8d. per diem, in addition to their ordinary pay, and are to draw their rations free, which is equivalent in all to a sum of 1s. per diem. This improvement in the condition of the hospital attendants shows consideration on the part of Lord Raglan, but it would be difficult to explain on what grounds such a difference is made in the amount of remuneration to non-commissioned officers acting in various capacities, as has previously existed, and still exists. Hospital sergeants must be intelligent, honest, and active men, for they have to carry out the orders of the surgeons, and in the greater number of hospitals have chargeand keep account of the hospital stores, although the surgeons are directly responsible for them. It is stated that scarcely any of the hospital sergeants who first landed with their regiments in Bulgaria are now alive, having fallen victims to diseases incidental to their position. Whether this statement is true or not I cannot assert, but I have heard of many instances in which they have succumbed to maladies supposed to have originated in their hospital duties. None of the men of the new hospital corps, stated in some of the newspapers to have been raised on the plan of the French Corps d'Infirmiers, have yet arrived in the Crimea, and the hospital attendants still consist of soldiers selected from the ranks. It would be curious to obtain a return showing the nature and variety of the duties for which men in the British army are liable to be taken away from the purely military duties of their regiments, and the amount of pay given in each situation and employment.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, MAY 22.

Before this reaches England, news will in all probability have been received by telegraph, not only that an expedition has sailed from the ports of the Allies in the Crimea, but also of its successful issue. Arrangements have been made for the embarkation of the troops this day, and the force will most probably leave early to-morrow. Its destination is ultimately Kertch, but at what precise part of the peninsula of Kertch the landing is to be effected is not known; it is generally believed that it will take place on the shore of the bay a little south of the projecting cape called Cape Akburun. The depth of water in this part of the Strait is said to be favourable for the close approach of vessels to sweep the land with their guns in case of opposition being offered to the disembarkation of the troops, while a landing once effected, the march upon Kertch would not be attended with much difficulty. There are several batteries mounted on the high ground of the Cape commanding the approach to Kertch by the regular

channel. Plans of these works were obtained previous to the starting of the former expedition, and it is understood that the additions made to these and other defences nearer to Kertch, have not since been of much importance.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown goes, as before, in command of the expedition, and his well-known daring and bravery will, no doubt, carry it to a speedy and successful result. The Highland Brigade, two regiments of Light Cavalry, three companies of Sappers, and Major Barker's battery of artillery, are named as the British force to be embarked. Some of the regiments lately arrived from Corfu and elsewhere expected to join the force, but had not received orders to that effect yesterday morning. It is reported that the general made a great effort to take his own division, but that he encountered insuperable difficulties in the attempt from not being able to obtain substitutes to take the siege duties in its stead. It has caused a great deal of disappointment, for all would have been delighted to have exchanged the monotonous occupation of the trenches for more active service in the field. Part of the French force embarked yesterday, and the remainder are going on board to-day at Kamiesch. It is asserted that on the last occasion one battery of French artillery and one battalion of infantry fewer were sent than the strength which Sir George Brown had been led to expect was to join in the undertaking.

The achievement of gaining possession of Kertch will be a most important movement toward the reduction of the whole peninsula of the Crimea. The communication with the Isle of Taman, though which there is now no doubt that the Russians have obtained a vast quantity of military stores, will be destroyed, and a stoppage to the supplies of grain and provisions from the shores of the Sea of Azoff must shortly follow. A considerable fleet of merchant vessels is said to be now lying in the harbour of Kertch.

The undertaking against Kertch will not be a solitary movement. Associated with it, it is understood, will be a descent into the plain of Balaklava by a force of cavalry and other troops, which will not unlikely lead to the possession of a portion of the Tchernaya, near Tchorgunа, if not to a further advance towards the Inkermann heights. The occupation of a part of the river Tchernaya is rendered more imperatively necessary, because already difficulty is experienced in supplying the immense number of troops and horses now encamped in the plateau with water; and, should the dry season continue, as is expected, for two months longer, the springs will have become totally inadequate to meet the demand upon them. The day after to-morrow (May 24) is said to be the day fixed for the movement into the plain.

The Ottoman force which embarked at Kamiesch a few days since suddenly returned yesterday morning. They have this day pitched their camp along the side of the hills toward Balaklava, in a conspicuous position over the plain of Balaklava. Their departure, which must have been witnessed by the enemy, may have caused a diversion by drawing off part of the force on the north heights in a direction towards Eupatoria, in the expectation of Omer Pasha making a movement from that position.

Rumours have been prevailing that the batteries would re-open their fire to-morrow. Should this prove to be the case, then the bombardment will be again commenced with several works in an unfinished state. But, without taking them into account, no less than twelve batteries in our left attack, and fifteen batteries in our right attack, armed with guns and mortars of the heaviest metal and largest calibre, are prepared to operate against the enemy's defences. These batteries at present comprise one hundred and thirty guns, none less than 32-pounders, and thirty-five mortars, many of which are 13-inch, in the two attacks. Moreover, there are several advanced that what were the advanced works, may now be regarded almost as the first parallel, for the new lines of batteries are but a few yards in rear of them. Whenever it opens, the fire of this third bombardment will as much exceed that of the second, both in weight and destructive force, as the second exceeded that of the first. Already 200 rounds have been brought up for each gun, and the ground about the railway terminus which is fast approaching the front, and the gunwharf at Balaklava, are strewed with heaps of shot and shell, ready to be transported to their place of destination.

We have been taken by surprise at the announcement of General Canrobert having ceased to hold the supreme command of the French army; and the more, that having resigned it into the hands of General Pelissier, he should have accepted the subordinate post which was thus rendered vacant. The *on dit* is that the resignation was a voluntary act on the part of General Canrobert, and that inasmuch as General Pelissier is his senior in the service, there is nothing derogatory in the change of position. General Pelissier, since his arrival from Africa, has had the command of the 1st corps of the French army, that engaged in all the operations on the left, But in spite of the assertion that the resignation was a voluntary act, every one believes that the Emperor Napoleon's will was exerted in the matter, and by many it is supposed that the misunderstanding which led to the return of the last Kertch expedition was one of the causes to which General Canrobert's fall is attributable. Those only can judge correctly of the capacity of the late General-in-Chief for properly conducting his weighty charge who know what his instructions and powers were, and what difficulties he had to contend with: but no one who has been with the allied army since he assumed the command of the French force, can do otherwise than bear testimony to his gallant courage and constant activity in the field. His fearlessness and presence of mind were much noticed at the battle of Inkermann. It is said that he was offered by the Emperor a high command in Africa, but that the reply was that he would rather remain with the army in the Crimea, even if he were the uniform of no higher grade than that of a private.

There have been scarcely any changes in the relative position of the Russian works and the works of the centre attack the last few days. During the night between the 19th and 20th instant, the enemy brought out a very large working party, and succeeded in connecting the rifle pits in front of the zigzag and boyaux prolonged from our advanced work on Frenchman's-hill, and forming them into one continuous trench communicating with their other trenches in rear. It was well known that they were working in the neighbourhood, for the sound of their pickaxes and spades was plainly audible, but no interruption to the work was offered. The artillery officers in the batteries were applied to for some fireballs or carcasses to be thrown in the direction of the Russian working parties, but none were used. If the nature of the enemy's operations could have been rendered visible by some of these missiles, a well-directed musketry fire might have occasioned considerable interruption to them. It is asserted, but with what truth I am not aware, that we have scarcely any of these useful articles in possession. We also in this attack have thrown up a line of trench about forty yards in front of the line of our advanced work, but not so far forward as the extremity of our zigzag or bayau.

On the Mamelon Vert hill the enemy are throwing up some additional works. They have had for ten days or more a very deep trench, with parapet, extending from the left of the Kamtschatka redoubt (our right) across the hill toward the Careening-bay ravine. At the upper part of this trench, not far from the point where it is connected with the foss of the redoubt, a battery has been constructed, and already five guns are mounted, which will bear on the French approaches in front. This work is being extended. They have also brought some small mortars into a part of the rifle trench near the French parallel in reply to others which had been previously brought down by the French to their advanced work. The covered ways in the Mamelon now form a network of trenches.

There has been very little firing, during the last two or three nights, opposite to our centre attack. The enemy has been quiet, apparently from a desire not to bring down any interruption to the works of counter-approach which they have been executing near our trenches. There has been a good deal of signalling both along the hills and from the north to the south side of the harbour. About 1 a.m. on the 20th inst. three lights were hoisted at the mast-heads of a three-decker, and retained there for upwards of an hour. A small steamer was also observed by its lights to be frequently traversing the harbour during the greater part of the night.

On the left the fire has been more continuous, and the enemy have been frequently discharging carcass lights, as if in anticipation of an assault in that direction. On the right the fire has been kept up with considerable constancy both from the Russian batteries about Inkermann and the batteries on the east and west sides of Careening Bay. The last constructed redoubt on the east side (the third redoubt) has been very active in its fire, while the most advanced has been noticed to be very slack for

a work past. The French are continuing to sap up, notwithstanding the fire to which they are exposed. It is said that a battery of immense strength has just been discovered within the town, and that it is within range of the ships, which will be able to throw shells against the work from a position in which they themselves will not be exposed to much danger.

A Russian exhibited remarkable coolness in the performance of a very daring, and, as far as could be understood, unnecessary act, about 11 o'clock on the morning of Saturday, the 19th instant. The man alluded to walked out of a trench on the side of the Mamelon Vert, running nearly parallel with the ravine between the Mamelon and Frenchman's-hill. He was completely enveloped in a white covering, of linen or some such material, his head being wrapped round with it as well as his body. The object seemed to be to render himself as conspicuous as possible, for as the sun was shining with a strong glare at the time, the contrast with the grass and dark ground was very marked. The upper part of his body was first seen, but as he walked coolly on to the open ground he became fully exposed to view. When first observed he could not have been more than five hundred yards from the boyau at the right of the advanced works, towards which his back was turned; but the men in this trench did not seemingly perceive him, as they did not fire. A party of men and officers, however, about two hundred yards further off along the advanced work saw him at once, and discharged altogether about thirty shots at him from their Minié. The first few bullets fell short, but the range being altered, the remainder were observed to kick up the dust on all sides of him. The white gentleman of the Mamelon took no notice, beyond looking round twice; he neither hastened his pace, bent his body, nor in any way evinced a desire to elude the leaden messengers which were sent to arrest his progress. Six or seven minutes elapsed before he was again under shelter of the works. As there was a covered way at no great distance, along which he could have passed in safety, this extraordinary exposure was manifestly voluntary, or, if forced, must have been as a punishment. Perhaps it was done for a wager.

We have had less intense heat during the last two days. Cases of cholera have continued, but they have been generally "sporadic" in character. A few cases have occurred among the Sardinians, and one or two have appeared in the Highland brigade. Its one instance six male drivers from the same hut were attacked by the disease, and taken to the general hospital at Balaklava. The regiments of cavalry have remained without a case. There has been a diminution in the number of fresh cases in front, but Major Norton, the senior major of the Connaught Rangers, has fallen a victim to the disease. He was attacked in the course of Saturday, the 19th inst., and died early in the morning of the following day. Although senior major of the regiment, he had only been promoted from having charge of a company since December last. He had served throughout the whole campaign, and appears to have been as much respected as an officer as he was admired as a friend by all who knew him. A large concourse of officers attended his funeral.

It will be satisfactory to the world-wide circle of admirers of the heroic and devoted Miss Nightingale to learn that, though much weakened by her attack of fever, she is reported to be progressing favourably towards recovery. Miss Nightingale remains at the convalescent hospital above Balaklava, where, it need hardly be said, she receives every care that kind and considerate attention can bestow.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In the course of the late debate on Colonel Sibthorp's motion for a committee to inquire into the army and navy medical departments, Mr. Ellice stated that, in his opinion, a military officer should be placed in superior control over each hospital—is not this the case at present?—and that this officer should be invested with full powers to compel medical officers to do their duty.

This looks very like an insinuation—if it be not a broad assertion—that medical officers are inclined to neglect their duties, unless kept thereto by military control. Is such the fact? Has it been proved that, individually or collectively, they have shown any want of zeal in the performance of their duties? And, moreover, ought not a great deal of the odium which has been endeavoured to be cast on the medical department to have fallen on the military? For instance, a great deal has been said about the filthy state of the water-closets at Scutari. Has the principal medical officer not more important duties to perform than those of head scavenger? Was it not the duty of the commandant and engineer department to have those places rendered fit for use; or, if that was impossible, to have new ones built?

Again, a just cause of complaint was the smallness in point of number, and the inefficiency of the men allotted as hospital orderlies. Was this the fault of the medical or military departments? Was there any general order or memorandum issued after the battle of the Alma limiting the number of orderlies considerably below that allowed by her Majesty's regulations?

The principal medical officer is talked of as if he had only to say, "Do this," and it would immediately be done. Those who think so, little know how powerless he is, and powerless he will continue to be, until he is placed in a much more independent position as regards military control, instead of being subjected to it in a greater degree. Why should not the head of the medical department in a hospital be as anxious and as able to see that medical officers do their duty as a military commandant can be? The occupation of the latter is too often to keep a vigilant watch that the number of orderlies does not exceed the number allowed by regulation. This no doubt is and should be the duty of the principal medical officer as well, but there are many cases where he may see a necessity for an increased number, and any interference in this respect must be to the prejudice of the sick.

The truth of what I have said will no doubt be proved by the result of the new civil hospitals.

If they succeed better than the military have done, it will not be from the medical officers attached to them being in any way superior to their military brethren, but simply from their having more independent powers of action. Let the government, instead of increasing our shackles, give us equal powers, and neither they nor the public will have much reason to complain.

It is amusing to hear comparisons instituted between the sanitary conditions of the army and navy in the Crimea, and the favourable condition of the latter attributed to the superiority of the naval over the military medical department. Will the gentlemen who make these statements explain why in the naval brigade the sailors are much healthier than the marines? Is it because the medical officers wear blue jackets? It is also amusing to hear a statement made with the most perfect coolness, that the reason of the difficulty in obtaining naval assistant surgeons is, that the navy medical board requires higher qualifications than those required by the medical department of the army: it is easy to make statements, but let some independent member of the house call for a return of the qualifications required for each, and the public will find out how much such statements are worth. Is it necessary that a candidate for the medical department of the navy shall be a member of a Royal College of Surgeons, or will any diploma suffice? I say this without any disparagement to the medical officers of the navy, for my only astonishment is that the country can procure the services of such able men—as many of them undoubtedly are—considering the degradations to which they are subjected.

Let a return be also asked for, showing the number of legally qualified medical men (not boy dressers) borne on board each ship of the Baltic and Black Sea fleets. I say *bona fide* on board, because it is quite possible to make one man into two by returning him as belonging to the ships of whose books he is borne, and also in the ship in which he is actually doing duty. It is sincerely to be hoped that such a return would bear out the statements made by Lords of the Admiralty—statements diametrically opposed to what I have heard made by naval medical officers. I have heard the remark made in reference to the Baltic fleet, "If that fleet is engaged, God help the surgeons, and still more the Russians are wounded."

No one can blame the medical profession for making a stand for what is justly its due. The blame must rest on those who have been told again and again that the removal of what is a just cause of complaint will ensure the entrance into the service of men who would be an ornament to it, and without the removal of this just cause of complaint to extra shilling a day will tempt men into a forgetfulness of their own self-respect.

May 3. A STAFF SURGEON.

HEALTH OF THE TROOPS.

Balaca Sebastopol, May 15.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a letter from the Inspector General of Hospitals, forwarding the weekly report on the sick of the army under my command. I deeply regret to have to draw your lordship's attention to the fact that the ... has reappeared here," that 39 men have died, and the "22 men were yesterday labouring under the fatal disease.

The troops had ben w ... fore from it for several months, and I was in hope th... it we should have had no return of it.

General Canrobert infor... me that it had never ceased to prevail in the French army," to a greater or lesser degree.—I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

Head Quarters, Camp bef...re Sebastopol, May 16.

My Lord,—I have the honour to report on the weekly state of sick of the army serving in the Crimea, from the 6th to the 12th instant, and to observe that the following are the proportions, which are extremely comfortable; viz.:—

Ratio of admissions to strength during the week, 3·91 per cent.;

Ratio of deaths to strength during the week, 0·39 per cent.;

but I regret to have to add that, since the 12th instant, spasmodic cholera has considerably increased, and as many as 18 deaths, and 62 cases under treatment, have been reported within the last twenty-four hours.

The 4th, including the Buffs and 71st, the 2nd and the Light Division, with R.G and F batteries of Artillery, have suffered most; but as yet the disease can hardly be said to exist in the cavalry, 1st and 3rd Divisions, and in the siege train. The exemption, however, here is reason to apprehend, will not be of any very long duration.

Hitherto the disease has chiefly attacked new comers, and many of the cases have occurred when the men were either actually in the trenches, or immediately after their return from duty in them. This may have been owing to the combined causes of fatigue and bad weather, but to neither in particular; for we find the men of the R.G. and F batteries, who never go into the trenches at all, and who are not overworked, have suffered nearly as much as any others. All the men attacked in them, with I believe one exception, had recently arrived in the Crimea. In the F battery, two of the men attacked had only just landed; one, I think, had been about 24 and the other 36 hours on shore when they were attacked, and in both the disease followed in operation.

The weather, which for some days previous to the 10th had been extremely warm, was followed on that day by heavy rain, which continued, alternating with periods of cause fog, during the whole of the 11th and 12th, but is to-day cleared up again, and the temperature has been considerably reduced.

The Buffs and 71st, which had only just marched up to their new encamping ground before the rain set in, were ill prepared for such an occurrence; and their tents, which had not been properly trenched, were speedily flooded.*

The 68th Regiment, ... the 4th Division, and the 2nd battalion of the Royals, in the 2nd Division, both newly arrived regiments, had been a few days longer in camp and were somewhat better prepared, but the sites of their camps are not good, nor are those of the Buffs or 71st either. The 4ths are on a level piece of ground, where the filled hospital establishments were in the winter; the soil is tenacious, and the water lodges in pools, and remains until evaporated by the sun's rays. The Buffs and 2nd battalion of the Royals are on low ground between the 2nd and 4th Divisions, with the same disadvantages as the 4th; the 71st occupy rather better ground, as their tents are pitched just where the ground begins to rise to form the hill on which the huts of the 14th and 39th have been built; but I think all these regiments might be removed with great advantage to their health to the higher and drier ground, and I hope, from the short distance, without any very material detriment to their military position.

The health of the 1st Division continues to improve, and the number of fever cases in the 79th and filled is somewhat relieved. The men are well supplied, and the duties and fatigues comparatively light.

In the left siege train and attack some cases of low continued fever have occurred, arising, Mr. Elliott, the superintending surgeon, thinks, from fatigues in the heat of the day and exposure to damp at night. Two serious accidents have occurred during the week, one requiring amputation of the thigh, on account of comminuted injury of the knee; the other an injury of the foot, occasioned by the same shot, requiring removal of the heel and a bone adjoining it, called the scaphoides. These injuries occurred on the 7th, and are both doing well. There is a another interesting case in the hospital of the left siege train, where the greater part of the lower jaw on both sides was carried away by a recent shot. This case, under the able and indefatigable care of Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A. H. Taylor, is rapidly proceeding to a cure; and, by judiciously drawing the parts together, the deformity will by no means be so considerable as might be imagined. The man is now walking about, and though he so yet requires to be fed through a tube, he is able to smoke his pipe.

The Cavalry Division is improving in health. There are fewer fever cases; and the men of the 13th Light Dragoons, who last week was transferred in a hopeless state, is, I am glad to say, progressing favourably.

The 17th Hussars is the only regiment in the Cavalry Division that has anything like a heavy sick list, and they are suffering from dysentery contracted in Egypt, and kept up by sleeping on the ground from after the ... of Indian barrack bds.

In the 2nd Division febrile complaints still continue to be the most numerous class of diseases, but bowel affections are becoming more common, and spasmodic cholera has made its appearance; eighteen cases have occurred during the week, of which seven proved fatal.

In the 3rd Division, although there is no marked diminution in the number of sick, the decreased mortality marks a mitigation in the form of fever that is prevailing. The mortality this week is only half what it was last week.

4th Division.—Cholera has made its appearance in this division during the week, and thirteen cases have occurred, seven of which died, and four of them belonged to the 49th Regiment.

On the night of the 10th, the Russians made a sortie, and 1 officer and 3 men, of the 68th, were killed, and 23 men were wounded—amongst the latter is a case of musket ball lodged in the brain. The man must have been shot from above, as the ball entered the upper part of the head and lodged. The trephine was applied, and several spicul of bone, that had been driven down, removed, but the ball was so deeply embedded in the brain, it could not be discovered. He is still alive, but there is little or no hope of his ultimate recovery.

LIGHT DIVISION.

In this division, as in all others, fever is the prevalent disease, but only two deaths have occurred from it during the week. Seven men have died from wounds and two of cholera, one in the 77th and the other in the 23rd Regiment. Fifty-five cases of gun-shot wounds were admitted during the week, the greater portion of them from wounds Of the seven deaths that occurred, one was a wound of the lung, one a wound of the abdomen, in which the small intestines were wounded; one a fracture of the skull by a musket ball, another a severe fracture of the thigh and ankle, by the bursting of a shell, besides bullet wounds through both arms. There was a second case of injury of the head, as well as a second injury of the lungs. The seventh death is not detailed.

Every precaution is being taken to remove nuisances from the camps and their neighbourhoods, and to improve their sanitary condition, as well as that of the locality, and in this the sanitary commissioners sent out from England afford their cordial assistance.—I have, &c.,

J. HALL, Inspector General of Hospitals.

To Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,
Commanding-in-Chief.

* A telegraph has been received of a subsequent date to the above, announcing that the cholera was decreasing.

† The camps of the Buffs, 68th, and 71st, have all been changed to the only available site, but to a greater distance to where their services will be required; and it is altogether problematical what degree of benefit may be derived. All the ground is now dry. Although the weather was beautiful when these regiments encamped, the rain came on with its usual suddenness and violence, causing the mud to be nearly a foot deep over the whole surface of the country, in a manner that must be seen to be believed. They had no time to intrench their tents, although they were supplied with the proper tools.

JAMES SCREVEN,
Chief of the Staff.

ADVANCE ON THE TCHERNAYA. ATTACK ON THE RUSSIAN LINES.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, May 23.

An active fire was kept up last night against the French works on the right of Circening Bay, to which our allies replied with energy. The third, or last constructed, Russian redoubt in this position has preserved a very constant fire, and also a battery on a projecting point of cliff on the north side of the Great Harbour, against these works, and no means are omitted by the enemy to obstruct their progress. A large battery on the left, west side, of Careening Bay, and the guns lately placed on the east side of the Kamptschatka redoubt, are chiefly employed for this purpose, but in spite of all these impediments the French trenches are gradually and surely advancing. They are now not more than one hundred and twenty yards from the large embrasures in front of the foremost of the three redoubts.

There was not more than the usual musketry fire on the left, and scarcely any in the centre attack. Another line of trench has been commenced in front of the old and advanced parallel on Frenchman's-hill, but only a short distance in advance. The present trench of the centre attack on the left and the rifle pit connected with it, "Egerton's pit," the extremity of the bayau on the right, and, between these, the large rifle pit made by the Royal Engineers with its zigzag approach from the advanced work, remain the three most advanced points of our position on Frenchman's-hill; nor can they with security be carried further on, until the fire of the Kamptschatka redoubt on the Mamelon Vert is silenced. On Greenhill the works are advanced as far as the nature of the ground will permit; they have been carried to the verge of the high ground above the South harbour and left ravine.

The stores of ammunition, shot and shell, are being increased to a vast amount, and the magazines in the several batteries will shortly be filled.

A sad tragedy occurred this morning at the entrance to the Karabelnaia ravine. A body of French troops was marching down to furnish the usual relief to the picket in the ravine. The relief was composed of part of the 2nd battalion of the 20th Regiment of the Line. On the way, Lieutenant Delarf, of the Grenadier Company, had occasion to check a soldier, who, being partly inoxicated, was marching very irregularly, and giving expression to angry sentiments in a loud tone. Scarcely had the reprimand been given, when the man replied, "Lieutenant, you've punished me often enough; you shall not punish me any more!" and on the instant levelling his musket, he fired, and shot him through the body. The unfortunate officer—a man of powerful frame, and said to be popular in the regiment—at once fell. He was carried to one of the English hospitals near at hand, and died immediately after his arrival. The murderer was secured without delay, and was being taken back under escort to the head-quarters of his regiment, when a general murmur arose from the men for his instant punishment. The general in command of the trenches was in the ravine close by, and after a brief consultation between him and the commandant of the relief, a council was held and the man condemned to be shot. About 200 yards down the ravine and at a slight elevation above it on the side of Frenchman's-hill, a small heap of stones was observed with a clear space before it. To this the unhappy culprit was brought, while on either side the battalion was drawn up in companies, and here he received the fire of twelve muskets from a party placed on the opposite side of the ravine. He fell forward pierced by eight bullets, and after a short address from the general the regiment proceeded on its way. Half an hour scarcely elapsed between the perpetration of the crime and the execution of the criminal. The soldier had become rather inoxicated after committing the murder. He had seen 18 years' service, and was spoken of as a brave and able man. He had lately received a slight punishment for some irregularity of conduct, by no means such as to form a motive for his crime, and this tragic episode in the history of the siege, involving the sudden destruction of two valuable lives, must be regarded as one more among the many examples of the fatal effects of drunkenness.

There is a good deal of conversation among the French troops respecting the change of position between General Canrobert and General Pelissier. General Canrobert has not taken command of a *corps d'armée*, but has gone back to his old division, the 1st Division, at the head of which he marched at Alma. The French soldiers speak of him with great regard; they say that during the winter he visited the ambulances, and went into their tents, found out their wants, and supplied them, and that for the army he was a *père de famille*. Some will tell you that he was tender to a fault: that more might have been done perhaps had he not husbanded (*ménagé*) the soldiers too much. General Pelissier is spoken of as a good and determined leader, one that will persevere where duty is neglected, but that will give due praise and reward where it is merited. All look forward to the siege being pushed forward with increased energy under his direction. A remark respecting the Russian works in the Mamelon Vert is generally attributed to him—"The Mamelon must be taken; if it cost ten men, we must have it; if it cost ten hundred we must still have it." I fear there is no chance of its being obtained at the first price.

All the troops composing the expeditionary force under Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown have embarked, and the fleet will steam off in sight. It is stated that at the last expedition it was intended to have effected a landing about ten miles south of Kertch, at a part of the coast where a low sandy beach offers the double advantage of an easy access by boats and a clear opening into the land, so that the ships' guns would be able to cover every way means that might be brought to oppose the troops while disembarking. The battery of St. Paul was supposed to be armed with thirteen guns, but four were of large calibre, and in a very commanding position. This battery was to be attacked in reverse. The Russians were observed to be engaged in sinking lighters filled with stone on a shoal in mid-channel between the northernmost horn of the Bay of Kertch and the long bank connected with the opposite isle of Taman. A battery in this position might be made a powerful obstacle against the passage into the bay of Kertch from the Strait.

11 P.M.—Shortly before 9 o'clock a furious cannonade opened on the left, accompanied with a heavy and continuous fire of musketry. It became at once evident that there was a very determined sortie on the part of the Russians, or an attack in force against some important work by the French. The din of the contest was so unusually great that many officers and others were induced to go to the high ground in front of the camp to see the contest. The new moon was shining above, and, with the stars, afforded a..me light; but a thin hazy mist was floating on the surface of the ground, and this, mixed with the smoke in the distance, so obscured the view, as to defy all attempts at defining the particular point where the struggle was going on. The fire was terrific. The atmosphere and sky were lighted up by the showers of burning stuffs, the flashes of the guns and the fiery trails of rockets; while at frequent intervals patches of ground were rendered visible by the sudden bright glare of the shells in the act of their explosion. The air, rent by the iron balls in their swift flight, uttered unmeaning sounds, which, from their shrill tones and peculiar character, were not inapily compared with groans and sounds of complaint. Those cries of wailing, as it were—these rushing noises—were plainly audible, notwithstanding the deep-toned roar of the cannon, the loud crash of the bombs exploding on the ground, the metallic ringing of those burst in the air, and the thundering roll of the echoes from mountain to mountain: all struck the ear at once, yet each distinctly audible, producing in their combination a confused uproar which was well calculated to create astonishment and surprise in any one whose ear had not become by long practice accustomed to the disorderst music of the siege. The contrast with the deep unbroken silence on the night was very remarkable, for, contrary to common usage, not a gun or musket was fired in that direction. From the course taken by some of the shells it was supposed at first that the ships were engaged in bombarding part of the town, and this idea was strengthened by the discharge of several guns from Fort Constantine and other distant points. Whether this was to guard against the supposed entrance of vessels, or what other object the enemy had in view, could not be unravelled. The contest by land soon made itself audible, however, for wherever a moment's lull in the thunder of the cannon occurred, the rattle of a rapid concentrated roll of musketry was at once heard. For two hours there was no intermission in this fearful fire—a fire which on few occasions before, since the opening of the siege, has been so close and sustained, and never of such long duration. It has slackened at present, but is not concluded.

MAY 23.

The contest of last night was not finished until daylight interfered, and caused both hostile parties to retire within the protection of their respective works. The affair was attended with fearful loss, as, judging from the fire and the time it lasted, it was fully anticipated it would be, both to our gallant allies and to the enemy, and was not accompanied with the amount of recompense hoped for. The attack began on the part of the French, and was made against a trench forming a species of redoubt, and some ambuscades in rear of it, near the Quarantine Battery. The trench was carried, and is now occupied by our allies; the ambuscades are crowded with the dead, but both Russians and French have evacuated them: their parapets are in a great measure destroyed. The French attacking force appears to have consisted of about 5,000 men. They encountered greater opposition than was anticipated at the breach itself; and when, after a sharp fight, they had gained possession of it, immense reinforcements came to the aid of the Russians, both from the town on one side, and from the Quarantine Fort on the other. They were several times driven back by the weight of the fire, and as many times returned to the charge. At one time the French had driven the enemy out of the ambuscades, and had passed them some distance, when a battery, stated to be armed with 16 or 17 guns, opened a direct fire upon them and compelled a retreat.

The Voltigeurs of the Imperial Guard, the 2nd Regiment of the Foreign Legion, and the 19th Regiment of the line, particularly suffered. The first-named corps had landed only three days previously, and it was the first time they had been in the trenches. It is asserted that these troops became confused, and so completely lost their position that at one time two companies became surrounded by the enemy, and were killed and wounded in great numbers, while several were taken prisoners. This is not to be wondered at, for scarcely any one, the first time he is exposed to a fire of shot and shell, though under cover of trenches, can prevent himself

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from becoming bewildered by the iron passing above and on all sides. It is not so much a feeling of fear as the effect produced on the mind by the uncertainty of the direction of the missiles in their course, and their rapid peculiar noise. It requires practice before the ear can learn to estimate distance, or even the direction of flight of cannon balls. Even the sight of the face will fail to illustrate the course of an approaching shell to one not accustomed to watch them. A ball sweeping by far away on the right or left will sound as if coming directly forward, while the ball coming forward will scarcely be heard till close upon the soldier. The shell seen in the air, and apparently going far away to either side, may alight close to the spectator, or *vice versâ*; and it is this uncertainty, partly arising from want of practice and the confusion of sounds, as much as alarm on account of danger, that excites the emotions of mind which agitate the majority of soldiers on their first visit to the trenches. A general action is not so calculated to unnerve a novice. The loss in killed and wounded of the Imperial Guard was very great, their colonel commandant being among the number of wounded. The 3rd Regiment of the Foreign Legion had about 400 off-sets and men placed *hors de combat*. The total loss of the French in this attack is variously estimated from 1,200 to 1,700 killed and wounded, but by some is it placed under 1,000. The loss of the enemy can only be surmised by the number of dead left on the ground; in some places they are literally piled together. The French soldiers speak of this contest as "une petite Inkermann."

A flag of truce was hoisted by the Russians from Fort Nicholas to-day, but, from some motive, the French did not respond to it.

It is intended to renew the attack to-night, and to open several new batteries. The object of the French engineers seems to be chiefly to extend their works still farther to the left, so as to gain a footing on the east, or right, side of Quarantine Bay. This position once established, not only a further effective fire will be obtained against the fleet on Mitt and its associated works, but an important step will be gained toward the ultimate reduction of the great batteries on the coast. When the ambuscades are obtained, there will remain nothing, not even a ravine, between the French works and the wall which guards this part of the town.

The steamers moving towards Kertch have been visible all the morning off the coast.

It is now stated that in the two attacks occupied by the British 130 guns and mortars are now in position, and that no less than 700 rounds per gun are in the magazines. This vast armament, composed as it is of the heaviest metal, and carried forward to a most advanced position, must open with an effect that will leave far behind those of the two previous bombardments. As early day is named for re-opening the fire; but nothing is known on the subject, and there are several undetermined things in all probability to be accomplished before the new batteries are opened.

Several regiments have now got their summer dress, consisting of trowsers and tunic of unbleached canvas. The material is strong and cool, and has by no means an unpleasing appearance on parade. The men are exceedingly pleased with it.

Why is the bread issued to the British troops so inferior, in all respects, as it is to that supplied to the French troops? It is very frequently covered with mould on the surface, and is always heavy, dark coloured, and gritty; while the French ration bread is the reverse in these respects, and is both palatable and excellent in quality. Perhaps M. Soyer will discover the cause before he leaves the Crimea.

10 P.M.—A heavy cannonade is going on on the left, but no musketry fire audible, beyond the dropping shots of the vifleurs.

MAY 24.

The French last night secured possession of the ambuscade near the Quarantine Battery. After some cannonading the French advanced against the rifle-pits at the charge. The Russians abandoned them, and did not return or attempt to recover their loss. The French were in immense force, prepared for all hazards. The working parties quickly connected the pits with the French trenches.

An opportunity was offered in the course of the day for forming some estimate of the loss of the Russians in the contest for these rifle-pits during last night and the preceding night. An armistice was entered into at noon for the purpose of burying the dead, and the enemy were occupied for nearly five hours in the performance of these last rites. On the occasion of the armistice to bury the dead near the Mamelon about two hours were occupied, and the number of Russian dead was then calculated to be about 900.

A review of the British cavalry and some troops of Horse Artillery took place to-day, in honour of her Majesty's birthday. The day was magnificently fine and bright. The heat was tempered by a refreshing breeze, and passing clouds spread out from time to time a welcome shadow. Notice had been given to the officers of the various divisions of the British army, and a great proportion of those off duty assembled in honour of the occasion. General Pélissier and a brilliant staff, Omer Pasha and staff, with numerous generals of divisions and brigades, and officers of all ranks—French, Sardinian, and Ottoman—were also present. Omer Pasha was particularly conspicuous, from the gorgeous embroidery of his dress and the richness of the trappings of his charger, as well as from the number and brilliancy of the stars and decorations which he wore. His fez was ornamented in front by a device worked in diamonds. The review took place on the heights above the valley of Kazatch, between it and the Monastery of St. George. After marching past, during which the 10th Hussars and 17th Lancers, lately arrived from India, received a large share of admiration, the whole of the troops formed into line and gave a general salute. The generals, with the foreign and other officers, advanced, and three cheers were given for "the Queen," which might almost have been heard by the Russian videttes on the opposite heights of the Baidkara valley. Lord Raglan, General Pélissier, and Omer Pasha then inspected several Ottoman regiments, which were drawn up near at hand in columns of companies, and afterwards retired to the Ottoman generalissimo's tent to partake of luncheon. One of the Ottoman bands played the English national anthem with much character and vigour. In the evening the commander of the forces had a large dinner party at head-quarters. No spectacle could be finer than this inspection. The limited number of the regiments enabled the whole to be grasped in one view, but their splendour was almost forgotten amid the magnificent natural scenery by which the position was surrounded. The whole of the valley of Baidkara lay stretched below, with, on one side, the lines defending the encampments of the allies; and, on the other side, the mountain barrier rising range above range, and protecting the rich inland territory of the Crimea. The effect of the various hues and tints of these mountains, of the green cultivated fields and the bare rocky escarpments, was greatly enhanced and vivified by the bright sun and the sweeping shadows of the clouds.

MAY 25.

The advance against Tchorgun took place at daybreak this morning, and the object was secured without any loss to the Allies. The French troops, in the course of the morning of yesterday, had struck their large tents, and substituted the small tentes d'abri, and, soon after midnight, commenced to leave their several ecampments for the purpose of forming and concentrating near the entrances to the plain. Just before daybreak the advanced body were within a thousand yards of the square redoubt on the side of the hill to the north of the opening, forming the valley of Tchorgun. The cavalry occupied a position on the plain, and the reserves of French and Ottoman troops stretched back as far as Baidkara.

General Canrobert commanded on the field, but General Pelissier superintended the operations from a projecting height on the right flank near the Canrobert redoubt. The force altogether comprised about 20,000 men, and included the division of British cavalry, a Sardinian division, and about 5,000 Ottomans. Daylight to sooner exposed the approach of the Allied force than the enemy ran in all directions. The large redoubt was attacked at the point of the bayonet just as the first rists of morning were visible, but, contrary to all expectation, the guns had been all removed. A few detachments alone guarded the work. On pushing up the hill to a shelving plain where the enemy had cut a series of zig-zags and intrenchments, it was equally found to be abandoned. The troops which had carried made a slight opposition from the side of a neighbouring height, but a few discharges of shells and grape compelled them to fly. At the same time that this transpired on the left of the Tchernaya, other troops had advanced on the right, and gained possession of a low mamelon and ridge commanding the village itself. No opposition was offered, and a few rounds of grape and some shell were discharged into the woods above the village to complete the disorder of the troops who were escaping. The enemy kept up a very active fire from the batteries on the side of the Inkermann mountain, but the shells usually burst about half way in the air, and the shot, though falling as far as the redoubt near Tchorgun, failed to do any execution. Some prisoners were taken, and also a number of horses, and some sheep and cattle. Such was the hurry in which the troops quartered in the villages had escaped, that many had left portions of their dress behind, and in a few instances articles of considerable value. It is stated that a part of the force quartered during the winter at Tchorgun had only been lately withdrawn to the entrenched position of the army of the north, and that some of the troops had left immediately after the departure of the expedition towards Kertch.

After fully reconnoitering the heights around Tchorgun, and also the line of hills in a direction toward Kazatz Mackenzie on one side and Kamara on the other, the French general withdrew his main body to the Chersonese side of the Tchernaya, occupying however with his outposts the high points near the opening of the valley of Tchorgun, and commanding possession of a portion of the river. It is an important advantage to gain, for the present, the supply of water, and moreover this advance is one step in the direction to which the future movements of the several armies will be carried.

5 P.M. Several Cossack videttes have made their appearance during the day, and it is reported that the enemy is collecting a force upon Tchorgun. The whole of the Baidkara valley, and the low rounded hills separating it from the Tchernaya valley, are now included within our position.

News has arrived in camp that Kertch is taken.

MAY 26.

No attack was made last night. Some peals of thunder among the mountains last evening were several times mistaken for the echoes of artillery.

The fire of the siege batteries, on the left, was very heavy, and sustained during the whole night.

The weather continues dry and fine. The heat has been moderated by sea breezes, and the threatened outbreak of cholera has in a great degree subsided.

The following officers have lately left camp for England, at the recommendation of medical boards:—Major-General G. Buller, C.B., commanding the 2nd Brigade, Light Division; Lieutenant-Colonel Lord James Murray, Scots Fusilier Guards; Captain F. Bathurst, Grenadier Guards; Staff Veterinary Surgeon Cherry; Captain Owen, Royal Engineers (log amputated), and Lieutenant Pratt, Royal Engineers; Dr. Geddie Root, surgeon, 79th Highlanders; and Staff Assistant Surgeon Haugerford. Colonel E. Reynardson, Grenadier Guards, and Captain Maitland, 49th Regiment, have also left on private affairs.

The following changes in staff and other departments have taken place:—Major-General Codrington has taken command of the Light Division during the absence of Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown; Colonel Van Straubenzee, the 3rd Buffs, has received charge of the 1st Brigade of this division in place of General Codrington; and Colonel Shirley, 88th Regiment, of the 2nd Brigade, vice General Buller. The 3rd Regiment has been temporarily attached to the Light Division. Major Leye, 50th Regiment, has been appointed to act as Assistant Military Secretary to Brigadier-General Lord William Paulet, Commandant at Scutari. Major Hall, Madras Artillery, has resigned his appointment in the department of the Royal Engineers, and joined the Turkish contingent. Captain Frederick Gore, 3rd Buffs, has been attached to Major-General Michel, C.B., of the Turkish contingent, as aide-de-camp. Brevet Major Stadwell, 19th Regiment, late aide-de-camp to Major-General Sir Colin Campbell, K.C.B., has been placed on the staff of the army as Assistant Quartermaster General, and attached to the First Division; and Captain and Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. Hardinge, Coldstream Guards, has been attached to headquarters as Assistant Quartermaster General.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

KADIKOI, MAY 23.

Another expedition of the Allied armies has sailed from the harbours of Kamiesch and Balaklava. This time the operation of sending the troops down to the harbour and getting them on board ship, was performed with unusual celerity. On Monday evening the first regiment of Sardinians—scarcely landed—marched down to Balaklava; and on Tuesday morning the 42nd, 79th, and 93rd Highlanders struck their tents in the Balaklava position, while the 71st, almost within the same hour, came down from the Sebastopol front, where, in the interval between the return of the fleet and the sailing of the second expedition, they had taken a short spell in the trenches. For an hour the usual morning noises, the trumpet-calls from the cavalry camp, and the various sounds of camp waksening, were drowned by the full sound of regimental music, and the shrill notes of the bagpipe, shrieking amidst Crimean rocks as fiercely and wildly as bagpipe ever shrieked in the glens of Ben Nevis, or on the banks of Loch Lomond. In the afternoon those four regiments, with the necessary complement of artillery, were shipped, and our part of the expedition moved out of the harbour, and rendezvoused outside with the French part of the adventure, which came from Kamiesch. This time the French sent a larger force, and I understand that of French, English, and Sardinians, there were, in all, 20,000 troops that went out to sea.

This afternoon some more of our artillery was embarked—it is said for the purpose of joining the Kertch expedition, and strong rumours are afloat of a proposed foray of the Allied forces against the Russian lines of the Tchernaya. The French, who know how to keep a secret, but who also know how to speak when concealment is of no earthly use, have had repeated warnings from their head-quarters to hold themselves in perfect readiness for an advance into the interior of the country, and to-day a grand review of the troops selected for immediate operations was held near their head-quarters. These troops, two divisions of infantry, sixteen batteries, and the whole of the French light and heavy cavalry, the Chasseurs d'Afrique, and Cuirassiers, were addressed by General Canrobert who, to the great joy of the army, remains in the Crimea, and who, with a patriotism and devotion which do honour to him as a man and a soldier, has consented to accept a subordinate command in an army of which for seven months—and those most trying months—he was the Commander-in-Chief. I need hardly say that the greatest excitement prevails among the French troops, who look forward to this expedition as a relief from the tedious and intolerable burdens of the siege. As to our own troops, they are in the greatest uncertainty, but it is said that the 10th Hussars have had notice that their services will be required. The Sardinians, of course, will advance with the rest, and, as Omer Pasha is about to fix his head-quarters at Kadikoi, it is expected that a considerable number of Turks will share in the glory of driving the Russians back upon the lines of Bakhshi Serai, and perhaps further. Altogether, it is expected that 40,000 of the Allied troops will cross Balaklava plain and storm the position of the Tchernaya before the month is over.

MAY 24.

This was a day of great rejoicing among the Allied armies on Sebastopol heights. It was her Majesty's birthday, and it became positively known that the attack upon the lines of the Tchernaya is to take place early to-morrow morning. I can hardly say that her Majesty's birthday was favoured by the weather, for we had the same sun and the same heat which has been oppressing us for some time past, and to which we shall have to reconcile ourselves, for, with slight interruptions, it is likely to continue to the end of September. According to home ideas the day was favorable, for it did not rain. Throughout the British encampments the day was kept as much like a Sunday as the hard times we live in allow. The business of the siege and of the army was carried on as usual, but a grand review of the whole of our cavalry was held on the heights between Karani and St. George's Monastery. Two troops of horse artillery and two foot batteries paraded with the cavalry. Men and horses, even of the regiments that wintered here, looked in splendid condition. The parade reminded me of that memorable parade on Scutari plain, this day twelve months, when the bulk of the force that on the following days embarked for Bulgaria were assembled on Hyder

Pacha and then lowered their colours and cheered their absent Queen.

MAY 25.

This morning at one o'clock, the Allied forces destined to operate against the Tchernaya, descended from the hills and formed in the plain outside the lines of Balaklava. It was one of those fine, fresh Crimean spring nights which, if they cannot make us forget, at least reconcile us to, the heat of the day. The stars shone bright; the crescent was high up in the sky, and white fleecy clouds were rapidly drifting across the deep blue back-ground of the horizon. The camps were all in motion, not noisily, nor yet silently, for there was little concealment in our taking the field. For two hours the clatter of horses' hoofs upon the stones, and the deep hollow rumbling of waggons, announced the descent of the cavalry and artillery, but as their dark shadowy masses arrived on the borders of the plain, even this noise ceased, smothered by the thick carpet of turf over which the troops moved. The large masses of the infantry might be seen as they moved through the white fog which rose up from the lower ground, but their steps were hardly heard, even on the stony surface of the road down the hills. As the columns debouched into the plain, they marched in different directions, so as to embrace in their attack the whole length of the line of low hills, which intersect the plain of Balaklava, and which in the history of the Crimean campaign are known as the Turkish batteries. We knew that earth-works had been erected on three of the highest of these hills; we doubted their being mounted with cannon. It was also expected that the Russians had but a small force between these hills and the Tchernaya, and nothing more serious than skirmishing was anticipated in marching upon this first outer line of the Russian position. At the same time the number of the troops that left our line showed that something far more serious than a mere occupation of the site of the Turkish batteries was intended—that measures were taking for forcing the lines of the Tchernaya, and, it is hoped, for an advance upon Perekop. It was whispered in the camp, that these operations would be supported by a third general bombardment of Sebastopol. For this morning those that so whispered were refuted by the event. Our batteries on the Sebastopol front were remarkably silent all day; but it is still hoped that the fire was reserved to support a future and more important movement of the army of operations.

That army, as it marched out this morning, is under the command of General Canrobert, and consists of about 25,000 French infantry, with eight foot-batteries; 12,000 Turks, horse and foot; and 4,000 Sardinians, rifles and infantry. Our own contribution to the Allied forces was small to a degree; it was confined to two squadrons of cavalry, from the 10th Hussars and the 12th Lancers. The French were pressed to support the operations of the day by almost the whole of their cavalry force. Their Chasseurs d'Afrique, their dragoons and their cuirassiers were drafted from all the points of their extensive camp, and sent down into the plain. The Sardinians, a detachment of Turks, and our own cavalry, were posted on the right wing of our line of attack, and operated against Kamara church and Canrobert's Hill. The French artillery, and large bodies of their infantry, took the centre, with a reserve of Turks in their rear, and the left wing was formed by the artillery, and by French and Turkish infantry. In this order did the troops, preceded by clouds of skirmishers, traverse the plain, and all the hill tops were ascended almost at the same moment. The enemy's redoubts, as had been expected, were deserted, with the exception of the one to the left, from which a few rounds of shot were fired; but the firing was evidently from a single gun, and that gun was carried off long before our skirmishers crowned the hill. A slight skirmish took place as the Sardinians, on our extreme right, ascended the hills of Kamara. The cavalry had, meanwhile, made their way up through the sloping grounds that separate the hills, and the Chasseurs d'Afrique and our own Hussars were fortunate enough to come up with a body of Cossacks, evidently bent upon effecting their retreat. They were attacked, and some of them were captured at a very trifling cost of casualties. A few of the Chasseurs d'Afrique were wounded, one of our Hussar horses was shot, and one officer was slightly wounded. The Cossacks, and a small force of infantry which supported them, were driven down to the banks of the Tchernaya, and pursued across them. A small battery on a steep hill to the right, on the other side of the Tchernaya, which was held by infantry unprovided with guns, was attacked by the French infantry, who took it with ease, and at a very trifling loss. Here, too, several of the enemy were captured. Those of the Allied forces that had crossed the river—which, at this dry season, is fordable at all points—entered the village of Tchourgoun, and for an hour or two kept possession of the hills surrounding it. They then retired. Here ended the operations of the day, by the Allied forces taking up a position on the heights commanding this side of the river. At 11 a.m. the troops were busily engaged pitching their tents, and all the hill-side was covered with French soldiers bringing wood for their camp-fires. The French cavalry, finding that their presence was unnecessary, fell back upon the Balaklava position; part of the dragoons returned to Kamiesch, and the light horse pitched their tents in Balaklava plain. Some what later our 10th Hussars and 12th Lancers returned to their encampments within our lines. Their place, with the Sardinian troops on our right, has this evening been taken by the 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards. The Sardinians have at once commenced turning Kamara church into an hospital for the wounded they expect to have in future engagements. The Russians can hardly complain of this use of the holy edifice, for they themselves used it as a guard-house and magazine for forage.

This afternoon and evening, the plain which for months past bore the same uniform aspect, showed features different from those we were accustomed to see, and became thereby an object of renewed interest. The hill tops were covered with tents, and in the evening, with long rows of blazing fires. Baggage and ammunition waggons crossed the plain, and traversed the ground, which, but on the rare occasions of a reconnoissance, was for us forbidden ground. Herds of the horses of our camp were driven out and fed luxuriantly upon the grass and young corn, which up to the present had been allowed to grow undisturbed, because the soil on which it grew lay within range of our batteries, and because the proximity of the Cossack videttes, and their cunning in driving in men and horses, held our camp-followers in awe.

The state of the ground between the Turkish ballteries and the Tchernaya shows at once that the Russians never had a serious intention of defending this their look-out position. Small numbers of troops only have been quartered in or traversed this part of their late territory. The grass is in full growth, on the banks of the river there are shrubs and trees, and only here and there a few earth-huts, or the black marks of a picket fire show that some detachments of troops have now and then occupied small camping grounds. The vegetation on that side of the hills is what we found it on our side when we first landed in the Crimea—abundant and odoriferous. Flowers, bright blue, purple, and yellow, actually cover the ground; little clots of poppies shine in the distance like fields of red ochre; the brush wood is intermixed with wild rose shrubs in full bloom, and some wild herb or other, as our horses champed the grass, so stuffed the faint odour of the peach. Add to this, that the heat of the sun was tempered by a fresh breeze, and you will understand that our first advance against the Russian position had all the features of a field day in fairy land.

Of course it is not yet known whether or not the attack of the Russian position on the other side of the Tchernaya is to come off to-morrow. The Czar's have been warned that they will have to advance, though not to-morrow. So it is just possible the attack may be put off for a day or two. From all we were able to ascertain to day, it will perhaps be found that the Tchernaya position is not near so difficult to take, nor so well armed as has generally been believed, and whether or not, when we do advance, we shall find many gun in position, is a matter of most interesting speculation. We are also very anxious to see the Sardinian troops, whom we all admire so much, under fire. It is generally anticipated that they will be most effective. An incident occurred to-day which threw a strange, and to us a pleasant, light upon their manner of making war. While the cavalry pursued the Cossacks to the river, the Sardinian Rifles advanced from Kamara, and took up a position commanding the approaches from the valley of the Tchernaya. They had hardly done so, when our own Hussars and Lancers, returning from the pursuit, were descried in the distance. The Sardinians, strangers as yet to the uniforms of the various nations that are united in these camps, mistook them for enemies and prepared to receive them as such. Colonel Cadogan who is attached to their contingent, remonstrated, and when the Sardinians still showed suspicion, offered to advance and reconnoitre the strange cavalry. He did so; and, finding that he at least had not been deceived in the uniform, he pointed out to his countrymen the exact position in which their Allies were posted, and turned them aside, so as not to interfere with the arrangements of the Sardinians. This done, he hastened back, but, to his amusement, when he reached the spot he found that the Rifles were gone. While yet bewildered what to do or in which direction to proceed in search of the fugitives, he heard a step by his side, and on looking up, he found himself face to face with the commander of the missing corps. Colonel Cadogan at once told the Sardinian officer there was nothing to fear, that the cavalry in front were English. "So much the better," was the careless reply, "then we can make ourselves comfortable," saying which the Sardinian put a whistle to his mouth and produced on it a horrible squeak. Astounded with this eccentric behaviour, the colonel stared at his comrade in arms, but who can describe his still further astonishment, when, on a sudden, the very ground near his feet seemed alive with human beings. Up started the rifles in all directions, and from all places, like Roderic Dhu's famous gillies; up they started from briar and brake, from ditches and water holes, when the whole corps had been lying *pseudo* waiting for the approach of what they believed to be the enemy. What if Russian cavalry had advanced instead of ours! Their surprise would have exceeded that of Colonel Cadogan. These Sardinian rifles are as active as they are smart. They were hardly a couple of hours on the Kamara hills, when they had made themselves at home and settled down in strours which in an incredibly short space of time they had made out of brush-wood. They are exceedingly small, but also exceedingly active and energetic men. They march in a trot, and climb up steep places with a wonderful rapidity. I trust I shall soon have the agreeable duty of telling you a great deal of the deeds of the Sardinian rifles in their advance across the Tchernaya.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

A portion of the following appeared in our latest edition yesterday:

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, JUNE 2.

The belief that the chief places on the peninsula of Kertch will be entrusted to the safe keeping of the fleet, and that the greater part of the land force sent to Kertch and Arabat will shortly return to cooperate in a movement towards Simpheropol, with Omer Pacha's force at Eupatoria, and General Canrobert's army in the plain, is gaining ground. The delay in the opening fire is attributed to the necessity of waiting until these movements can be undertaken, so that all may be done in concert, and a part of the Russian army on the north heights diverted from operating at Sebastopol. When the fire opens, the Kamschatka Redoubt on the Mamelon hill, and the quarry work below the Redan will be the two principal objects of attack at first; and, after a few hours' bombardment, it is understood that these works will be assailed, the former by the French, the latter by the English troops. No one feels any doubt about the assault being successful; the main difficulty will be to retain possession until the daylight shall have re-appeared. It will be important that the position on the Mamelon is secured at the same time that the quarry is covered, as there is little doubt that some of the guns on the former hill bear on the quarry. Whether the quarry is armed or not, the rifle pits on the Redan hill prevents this from being ascertained by observation, and as yet no embrasures have been opened. A discharge of shell has been occasionally thrown into the work, to interrupt the proceedings of the enemy within.

The fire has been slack along all the lines during the last few days; both the Russian batteries and those of the Allies have appeared to be reserving their strength for a more important struggle. As usual for some time past, what fire there has been, has been most continuous on the extreme left, where the works of the French almost touch the crenellated wall of the town. There has also been from time to time a sharp fire against the French works, which are making rapid advances on the east side of the Careening Bay ravine. The fire against our centre attack has been very trifling. A new device of the enemy has been loading some field pieces, which are placed at the lower part of the Mamelon hill, and directed against our advanced works, not only with the usual round shot, but also with a quantity of grape. This was very deceptive at first, for the lead while of the round shot prevented the small grape from being heard in their flight, and moreover as the chief impetus was given to the shot, it flew past first, and afterwards, when all danger had apparently gone by, came the pattering of the grape. We have had very few casualties in the trenches, and such as have occurred have happened principally from rifle balls. An instance occurred early in the morning of the 31st instant of the precision with which some of the Russian riflemen take their aim. Ensign Frederick Playne, of the 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade, who was in the advanced work on Frenchman's-hill, had taken one shot at a Russian in a rifle pit, and was in the act of elevating his piece with the intention of firing a second. Before he could accomplish his object the Russian had seen him and fired, and with such accuracy that the ball lodged in the Ensign's arm, so that he was compelled to give up his rifle. The wound was not so severe, however, as to prevent him from walking up to camp.

Orders have been given that a certain number of marksmen selected from the Rifle Brigade should be told off daily to act as sharpshooters in front of the advanced works, and that they should cease doing the ordinary duty of the trenches. During the siege operations the soldiers of the Rifle Brigade have not been doing this duty, for which it might have been expected they would have been more particularly employed. They have, therefore, in a great measure ceased to retain their distinctive character, and have taken their tour of duty in the trenches on the same footing with the other line regiments. When, at the commencement of the siege, sharpshooters were employed they were furnished by a certain number of volunteers from each regiment encamped before the town, in common with the Rifle Brigade. This may have arisen from the altered relative circumstances of the Rifle Brigade and Line in respect to arms—the old musket in the one case being discontinued, and both alike being armed with the Minié rifle. The Chasseurs à Pied in the French service correspond with our Rifle Brigade; and indeed sprang in the first instance, and were made to assimilate in their dress and organization, by Louis Philippe, under the name of Chasseurs d'Orléans, by imitation of our Rifle Brigade. Subsequently they were called, under the *régime* of the République, Chasseurs de Vincennes, —a name they frequently retain in ordinary conversation, although it was converted by the present Emperor into Chasseurs à Pied, which more particularly defines their duty and constitution. But while in the French service the men for the Chasseurs à Pied are most carefully selected, and only received into the corps when possessing superior powers of endurance and physical activity, no such care and distinction is carried out in the English service; on the other hand, in consequence of the general distribution of the Minié and the training of detachments from all regiments on the same footing at the School of Musketry at Hythe, some of the most expert riflemen in the British army may now be found in the ordinary regiments of the line. There can be no doubt that some new arrangement is called for to meet the altered circumstances of the period—either the Light Companies of regiments should be re-organized, selected from men who have given proofs of superior activity, and superior attainments as marksmen—in fact, be what their name implies and not, as is now generally the case, selected from being of a certain height or smart appearance—and the Rifle Corps, as a distinctive body, discontinued; or the men of the Rifle Brigade should constitute a *corps d'élite*, their superiority consisting in the necessary qualifications of light troops and marksmen in the field.

Now that our trenches are so close to the works of the enemy, a well-directed rifle fire can be brought to bear on the embrasures of their batteries with great effect. The Russians have for some time resorted to the usual expedient in the Redan and elsewhere of placing lurking sevens, or "marksmen" for the protection of the gunners against our Minies; but in spite of these devices our men, placed in favourable points, by watching and taking advantage of favourable opportunities, can keep greatly under control the fire of the guns. Some mantlets have lately been applied to several of our foremost batteries.

Another battery was completed in the right attack last night, and in both attacks every arrangement is now completed for the opening of fire. The stores of shot, shell, and ammunition are enormous; the rounds for each gun were completed some days since to 800 per gun, and the shells for each 13-inch mortar now

reach the number of 300. There was an explosion of gunpowder on the railway on the evening of May the 20th, but only two kegs of powder and a few friction tubes were destroyed. One man was slightly injured.

Captain Owen, of the Royal Engineers, who suffered amputation of the thigh, about a month since, in consequence of a severe injury from a rifle-ball, has left camp to proceed to England. Before coming out he had been appointed and was acting as secretary of the British committee for the Paris Exhibition, and he voluntarily gave up this post to join his corps before Sebastopol. He has been much liked by every one of his comrades and by the Sappers, the latter of whom volunteered to carry him from camp to Balaklava, to prevent the jolting of a wheeled vehicle. This was accomplished, the men being in three relays, and he arrived at the port without any fatigue from the journey.

Miss Nightingale has also left, still very debilitated and suffering. A few days before her departure she had a relapse of fever, which seriously interrupted her progress toward convalescence. Lord Ward placed the yacht at her disposal.

I regret to say that, although cholera has nearly disappeared among the troops encamped before Sebastopol, it has increased among the forces at Balaklava, and several fatal cases have daily occurred among the regiments of the Guards quartered in that neighbourhood. A nephew of Admiral Boxer, a young man, and acting as his secretary, was attacked at an early hour in the morning, and died at 1 p.m. of the same day. He had been quite well, and actively engaged the day before in assisting to arrest a fire which had broken out in one of the vessels in the harbour. Captain King, of the 32nd Regiment, who had seen considerable service in India, has also died from cholera, after a short illness. He was staying with a brother in the Artillery near Balaklava. He came as a volunteer, and brought high testimonials to introduce him to the notice of the Commander of the Forces. The weather has continued dry and fine, but the heat is very oppressive, more especially in the plain.

News from the army at Kertch has been looked for with general interest, and the probable influence on the Russian tactics of their losses in that direction has been a subject of much speculation. Will the enemy attempt to retake Kertch? or will he, without a struggle, abandon it, and with it the whole peninsula of Kertch, his communications by Arabat, and his supplies from the Sea of Azoff? For the whole of the Russian territorial acquisitions forming the shores of the Sea of Azoff are suddenly rendered valueless while our steamers and gunboats hold possession of the sea itself. Will the enemy be able to feed his large army, and provide the requisite munitions of war with the one road by Perekop only left open to him? What movements may be expected among the Russian troops along the line of the river Kuban? Will the Circassians take advantage of the interruption which has been caused by the occupation of Kertch between the communications of those troops and the Russian army in the Crimea? Such are the questions now discussed by those among our military men whose thoughts are directed to a wider field than the circumscribed operations before Sebastopol itself. Should all reduce former hopes are now held of a successful issue to the great enterprise in which the allied armies are engaged; and this, not only on account of the vast superiority in fire which will be brought to bear on the town and works as compared with the former bombardments, but also because it is argued that the Russians cannot have the means at hand of interrupting the operations about to take place in the field, or they would not have left the key to the Sea of Azoff so completely at our mercy.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, May 29.

The following are notes respecting the events which have occurred during the last three days:

May 26.—There was scarcely any fire from the batteries during yesterday, but towards evening and during the night a very active shelling was kept up by the enemy against the French works on the right. It seemed as if the heat of the day had caused the artillerymen to pause in their labours, and that they waited for the cool night to resume work. There was also some fire on the left, but less heavy than usual, while very few shells were discharged against the centre attack. The usual popping fire was kept up along the whole line, both during the day and night. Captain Maxwell, of the 34th Regiment, received a severe injury from a fragment of shell lacerating part of his body and thigh, but it is not expected that any disability of a permanent nature will result from the wound.

A body of Sardinian troops are now holding the most advanced heights above Tchorgoun; the Ottoman troops are encamped along the line of hills stretching from Balaklava toward Kamara; and the French army occupies the line of hill which stretches at right angles to their old position on the right flank, across the plain, having on one side the Tchernaya, and on the other the Balaklava valley. The French artillery are encamped in the valley on the Balaklava side of the hill. The spacious intervening plain is covered with the richest pasture, and an infinite variety of wild flowers, of size and beauty of colouring such as they only obtain after high cultivation in a more northern position, is scattered on all sides. It is impossible to overrate the enjoyment which is felt by those who have been so long pent up and fettered on the barren plateau, in having the opportunity of wandering through the verdure, and, to some extent, experiencing again a sense of liberty. Horses, as well as their typed masters, seem to inhale with delight the freshness and fragrance of the meadows thus opened to them. At the entrance to the valley of Tchorgoun is a detached conical hill, as there is also at the entrance to the gap of Balaklava. A Sardinian picket holds this point, and this forms the limit to the ground of which we have taken possession. It is on the opposite (east) side of the Tchernaya river, and is the only spot we retain on that side. The river immediately in rear of it is fordable, so that the troops could easily fall back upon the main position, if necessary. On the heights to the north side of this eminence is a Cossack picket, and their videttes, with lances eight or nine feet long, stand quietly surveying the movements of the troops below. The village of Tchorgoun, with the exception of one large house of some pretension, and a lofty octagonal tower, which from the plateau was generally supposed to be a church, has been destroyed. The houses are all unroofed, and nothing beyond the bare walls remain of their structure. Some lofty poplars and other trees remain. A small but exceedingly elegant stone bridge conveys the water of the aqueduct across the river, close to the entrance of the valley.

The batteries are now ready for re-opening fire. Among other missiles, a large number of carcasses have been sent down for use in both attacks, nearly one thousand in each. They are of three sizes—13-inch, 10-inch, and 13-inch. Some experiments have been made to test their fitness for service as light-balls as well as fire-balls. It is said that the 10-inch and 13-inch carcases will answer admirably for this purpose; the flames lasting for a period of ten minutes, being nearly three feet in length, and emitting a strong, clear white light. The heat given out is very intense, and the flame "carries" with great force. They have not been employed before, so that the destruction of some of the buildings in the town seems to be now determined upon.

The Russians have been burying an unusual number of dead on the north side the last few days. Their burial places on that side of the harbour are exposed to our view, and with a good glass not only the recent graves can be distinguished, but also the parties at work excavating, or performing the last rites of sepulture. Each grave is marked by a small wooden cross.

May 27.—There was heavy cannonading at several points along the line of siege works during the night. At half-past 1 a.m. several concentrated volleys of musketry were fired on the right, above the Careening Bay ravine, and these were immediately followed by a tremendous discharge of shells from the Russian redoubts in that position, as well as from the Mamelon Vert and the batteries about the north side of the harbour and Inkermann. The shelling continued for half an hour or upwards. It was generally supposed in the English trenches that the French had attacked and taken the foremost of the three Russian redoubts. The French and Russian bugles were heard for a wide distance round. It appears, however, that no attack was made or intended. An officer of engineers was trading out a new line of the sigzag, and with the working party had advanced to about thirty yards from the two large embrasures immediately in front of the redoubt. It is supposed that he was heard giving directions, and that the enemy imagined the working party to be a body of troops advancing to the attack, for the fire did not proceed from the embrasures only, but from a body of troops drawn up in line before the redoubt. The French quickly found shelter under cover of their gabions and trenches, and very few casualties occurred. Two men killed and three slightly wounded are stated to be their total loss, as well from the shelling as from the musketry. It is difficult to account for so small a number of casualties, considering the immense discharge from all the Russian batteries around the French works.

This morning the troops were assembled at their respective camps in brigades, to hear read to them the gratifying intelligence of the taking of Kertch without any loss to the troops who formed the expedition against it. The announcement was hailed with loud cheers—as loud and hearty that they must almost have found an echo within the squares and streets of Sebastopol itself. The news was also communicated to the men in the trenches; but no cheering was permitted there, lest the enemy, anticipating an attack or some movement, might be induced to open fire.

The official document announced simply that Kertch had been taken without loss on the Queen's birthday, that a foundry had been destroyed, and 20 guns of large calibre captured, and that the passage to the Sea of Azoff was now open to the allies. Other details have been received, however, by her Majesty's ship Cordova which arrived this day. The troops landed before break of day on the shore round Point Kamish-burun, and a short distance from the village of the same name. Their landing was not opposed, and they quickly assembled on the heights above, and commenced their march northward with the intention of taking the batteries near White Cape in reverse, and afterwards proceeding to the attack of the town itself. At the same time the steamers of light draught were sent forward towards Kertch and Yenikale. But no sooner had the Russians observed the nature of these combined movements than they became panic stricken; and, having blown up the fortifications on the heights and shoals, and set fire to some stores of provisions, they hastily abandoned the place, and retreated by the high road towards Simpheropol.

It is difficult to understand why the enemy was not better prepared to resist an attack against their most important position, and that he should have given it up without even making a show of defence. There are said to have been eight thousand troops in and about the town, and, properly handled, such a force would have sufficed to have made a strong opposition, if the natural advantages of the locality had been turned to account. But the defences appear to have been wholly neglected until the former expedition at the beginning of the month of May turned the enemy's attention to the subject. No earthworks to protect the place on the land side had been thrown up, nor had the batteries on the heights commanding the channel by the strait been materially strengthened. The sudden appearance of the former expedition seems to have roused the attention of the Russians, at the same time that its equally sudden return threw them off their guard. Various works were commenced, especially the construction of batteries on the shoals; but it was evidently imagined that the allied commanders had given up the intention of proceeding against the place for the present. These works were in progress on the arrival of the second expedition.

On one side, and especially as regards future movements, this bloodless victory is of the most material importance. The capture of the position at Kertch must shortly entail the possession of the whole peninsula of Kertch. Our gunboats will blow up and destroy the communication by the military road, which runs along the Tongue of Arabat, or perhaps take Arabat itself, and so rend will then remain for the conveyance of supplies and provisions but that of Perekop. The difficulties of this tedious transit, through a flat tract of country for a long distance, rendered specially impassable by heavy rain, and already threatened by the sands of Omer Pacha, are well known. All the towns around the Sea of Azoff have been converted into so many grasses from which supplies could be drawn, and forwarded to Simpheropol as circumstances required. These will now be either destroyed or fall into our hands. Already steamers are said to have proceeded to Taganrog and other places to secure these stores. Moreover, the Russian forces concentrated between Simpheropol and Sebastopol are now threatened on both flanks, and it will doubtless be the policy of the Allies to press them downwards towards the latter position, rather than to drive them from it, leaving the great plain of the Crimea open for them to fall back upon. In proportion as the Russian armies are compressed and forced toward the southern angle of the Crimean peninsula, will be the urgency of their need and the amount of difficulty in obtaining provisions and supplies. The fact, too, of being thus hemmed in must have a very depressing effect on the troops.

There is a rumour that the force now occupying the plain of Balaklava is to move within a few days and effect a junction with the troops under Sir George Brown, who, after leaving a proper guard for Kertch, where a very small land force will be required, is to proceed to the neighbourhood of Alushtha. I do not know what truth there is in the rumour. It is added that this movement is to take place contemporaneously with the opening of the third bombardment of the town and works. There is little doubt that this will take place soon. The officers of the Royal Artillery of the field batteries have already received orders to join the siege train Tuesday or Wednesday next, May 29 or 30, are named as the probable days for the commencement of the fire.

Among the stories in camp respecting the capture of Kertch is one that the engineer officer under whom the works in progress were being constructed, made his escape in a small steamer into the Sea of Azoff, and that a French and English steamer had gone in pursuit. It is also said that important papers have been obtained respecting Sebastopol, particularly some showing the state of the troops engaged in the defence. Their duties are described as being dreadfully severe, and that the number incompetent for duty from wounds and disease is so great that they far exceed any accommodation that can be obtained for them. Many sick and wounded were found in Kertch, brought in the return-waggons which had taken stores for the army. No less than 300,000 sacks of grain are stated to have fallen into our hands, with a number of carts and pack horses sufficient to relieve the Commissary-General himself of all anxiety on the subject of transport.

According to some persons the capture of Kertch is to be immediately followed by an attack upon Anapa.

Very heavy thunderstorms have visited the camp to-day. At first they were confined to the mountainous region beyond the plain, but they gradually became extended over the plateau. They were accompanied with heavy sheets of rain, which fell in torrents, and inundated some localities. The rolling of the echoes among the hills, and their prolonged reverberation, as peal succeeded peal, had a grand effect, and made us forget for a time the ordinary thunder of the siege.

The French have sent three battalions more than the ordinary reinforcements on the right this evening, and they expect to be ordered to attack the ammelon in front of the redoubt nearest to their works on the right of Careening Bay.

May 28.—The rain ceased early last evening, and a clear moonlight night followed. The expected attack on the right was not made, and no more than the ordinary amount of fire occurred elsewhere along the lines.

The Russians are still observed to be very busy about the graveyards on the north side of the harbour. At the highest of the three grave-fields—the term "yards" is hardly appropriate, as they are not enclosed—as many as seven carts were observed to be standing at one time to-day. Several parties have also been noticed making fresh graves. These observations confirm the written evidence, said to have been discovered at Kertch, of the amount of disease and fatal injuries prevailing in the garrison of Sebastopol.

Large quantities of shot and shell are still being conveyed to the batteries. Among the latter are a number of conical shells for Lancaster guns. Two of these guns remain in the right attack; one has had a portion of the muzzle cut away, for the purpose of removing a fissure—the other is perfect. It is still anticipated that the new batteries will open their fire about the middle of the week. The redoubt on the Mamelon Vert, the Kamptschatka redoubt, as the Russians call it, will be one of the chief objects of attack, and it is not unlikely that at an early date the French will attempt to secure this position by assault. The Quarry work below the Redan will also be an object to be taken by the British right attack. The possession of the Mamelon Vert is a matter of urgent necessity at the present stage of the siege operations, not only for the French attack on the right, but also to enable the English to push forward their works in the centre, and it is known that General Pélissier has declared that he would have it within a short time, whatever the cost. The artillery and engineer officers speak very confidently, with all the experience derived from the two former bombardments, of the destructive effect which will be produced on the enemy's works by the battering fire which is now imminent. Nor can the enemy, with the knowledge that their supplies from Kertch are cut off, and, if what is suspected be true, that their hospitals are crowded with sick and wounded, be expected to resist with the same ardour and animation that they have exhibited heretofore.

Two officers of the Royal Engineers, Captain Scanlon and Lieutenant De Vere, proceeded yesterday by the steam transport Gibraltar, to join the army under Sir George Brown, at Kertch, with orders to place themselves under the direction of Colonel Gordon, Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson, of the Royal Artillery,

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has gone on a special mission in the direction of the Bay of Kamiesch.

The French have extended their trench in front of the advanced Inkermann redoubt, the guns of which bear in the direction of the East Inkermann Light, down to the valley near the head of the Great Harbour. This trench is now carried partly across the valley of Inkermann, and terminates at the bank of the Tchernaya river. The object of this work is not very apparent, as the former works fully commanded the passage of the valley, unless it may be supposed to be connected with future operations of the army on the plain. Should this force push forward in the direction of Khgtor Mackenzie, with a view to turning the position of that detached portion of the Russian army now occupying the Inkermann mountain, and the operation succeed, the trench might be extended completely across the valley to be connected with works on the other side. A *fete de pont* for infantry has already been made to cover the large bridge across the Tchernaya near to Tchorgoun, and other steps have been taken to secure the position in the plain, in case of an attack in that direction, and to render it tenable in case the army having advanced should find it necessary to fall back upon it.

Our reserves have been increased, to-night in the right attack, and, it is stated, at the request of the French general, so that some attack or sortie is again looked for.

May 20.—The night passed without anything unusual taking place. The Russians were very active with some field pieces, which they brought down the Mamelon hill, and used against our trenches on Frenchman's hill. A Polish deserter gave himself up during the night to the men in the advanced work; according to his report the Russians are contemplating a sortie on an extensive scale against our works.

The weather is continuing dry and warm. Scarcely any cases of cholera are now occurring among the men of the regiments in front. Some men of the Land Transport Corps have fallen victims to the disease.

THE EXPEDITION TO THE SEA OF AZOFF.

DESPATCHES FROM ADMIRAL LYONS.

(FROM A SUPPLEMENT TO THE GAZETTE OF TUESDAY.)

Admiralty, June 6, 1855.

A despatch, of which the following is a copy, has been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

Royal Albert, Straits of Kertch,
May 26, 1855.

Sir,—I have great pleasure in requesting you to inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the allied forces are masters of the Straits of Kertch, and that they have in the Sea of Azoff a powerful steam flotilla, of light draught of water, capable of cutting off the enemy's supplies, and harassing him at all points; and, moreover, that the means are at hand for sending in a vast number of gun-boats of the lighter draught, if it should be found desirable to do so.

My letter of the 22nd instant, No. 396, will have informed their lordships that an allied expedition, consisting of 15,000 men of all arms, and five batteries of artillery, were then on the point of leaving the anchorage off Sebastopol for Kertch, and my message by electric telegraph will have announced the complete success of that expedition; but it now remains for me to give an account of our proceedings for their lordships' information.

The fleet, which consisted of her Majesty's ships named in the margin,* and a French fleet of nearly equal force, under the command of my very gallant and energetic colleague, Vice-Admiral Bruat, sailed off the Straits of Kertch at early dawn on the birthday of her most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and both armies and navies confidently anticipated a successful celebration of that auspicious day. The fleets steamed rapidly up to Kamiesch to the south of Kertch, where the army landed under cover of the guns of the steam frigates, and immediately ascended the heights without opposition, whilst the steamers of light draught of water pushed on towards Kertch and Enikaleh; and the enemy, apparently taken by surprise at the rapidity of these movements, and at the imposing appearance of the expedition, blew up his fortifications on both sides of the straits, mounting not less than fifty guns (new and of heavy calibre), which have fallen into our possession, and retired after having destroyed three steamers and several other heavily armed vessels, as well as large quantities of provisions, ammunition, and stores, thus leaving us masters of the entrance into the Sea of Azoff, without our having sustained any loss whatever.

As the disembarkation was unopposed, in consequence of the fire of the steam frigates having arrested the advance of the enemy, there was no field for the gallantry that animated every one in the expedition; but the duties they had to perform were very arduous, and I should be doing injustice to them and to my own feelings if I were not to say that no Commander-in-Chief was ever more ably assisted than I am by the captains and those under their command—one and all followed the admirable example of the zealous and talented second in command, Rear-Admiral Stewart, and they could not possibly do better. There was, however, an incident during the day that called forth the admiration of both fleets, and which deserves to be particularly noticed. Lieutenant M'Kellop, whose gun-vessel, the Snake, was not employed like the others in landing troops, dashed past the forts after an enemy's steamer, and although he soon found himself engaged not only with her but also with two others who came to her support, he persevered, and by the cleverness and extreme rapidity of his manœuvres, prevented the escape of all three, and they were consequently destroyed by the enemy, and the Snake had not a man hurt, though shot passed through the vessel.

Yesterday Admiral Bruat and I accompanied the combined steam flotilla named in the margin† into the Sea of Azoff, and despatched them, under the orders of Captain Lyons, of the Miranda, on the interesting and important service they have before them.

Had this expedition been delayed but a short time longer there would have been many and great difficulties to overcome, for the enemy was actively employed in strengthening the sea defences, and in replacing the sunken vessels which had been carried away by the current during the winter months.

Of the 43 vessels sunk last year some still remain, and a French steamer touched upon one of them yesterday. It appears that the enemy did not succeed in destroying the stone, either at Kertch or Enikaleh, so that about 17,000 tons remain, which will be available for our steamers.

It will be evident to their lordships that the rapid operations which I have had the honour and happiness to describe to them, could not have been brought to so satisfactory a conclusion, if the most perfect understanding, and the most hearty good will towards each other, had not prevailed throughout the allied fleets and armies.—I am, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND LYONS,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty, London.

Admiralty, June 6, 1855.

With reference to the above despatch, Lieutenant Henry Frederick Kilby will be promoted to the rank of Commander, so soon as he shall have completed the sea time required to qualify him for that rank.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

(FROM A SUPPLEMENT TO THE GAZETTE OF TUESDAY.)

WAR DEPARTMENT, JUNE 12, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received four despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, May 29.

My Lord,—Sir Edmund Lyons's telegraphic despatch of the 26th, which was forwarded from below in the morning of the 27th, and one from me that immediately followed, will have informed your lordship that the Allied Expedition to Kertch reached its destination on the morning of the 24th, and the troops having landed without delay, and the way encountering little water having pushed on towards Kertch and Enikaleh, that all the objects in contemplation were accomplished in twenty-four hours, without any resistance on the part of the enemy, who blew up the fortifications on both sides of the passage and ended, thus leaving us masters of the Sea of Azoff, to be speedily occupied by a French and English flotilla.

I have now the honour to lay before you a copy of a report of Lieutenant-General Sir G. Brown, commanding the allied troops; and in congratulating your lordship, which I do most cordially, on the complete success of the operation, I have the greatest satisfaction in drawing your attention to the promptitude with which the disembarkation was effected, to the efficient measures taken by the lieutenant-general to ensure his position and attain the objects in view, and to the just tribute which he pays in his interesting narrative to the judicious arrangements of Admirals Bruat and Sir E. Lyons, and to the zeal and energy displayed by the officers and men of the allied fleets in carrying them out under their various circumstances, as well as to the cordial co-operation and assistance of General Dautemarre, commanding the French division, and Rechid Pasha, commanding the Turkish troops.

I have not received any further advices from Sir G. Brown or Sir E. Lyons.

Nothing material has occurred in front of the new position taken up by the Allies on the morning of the 20th. The enemy have made no movement from the high ground towards the advance, but they have displayed a considerable force to-day on the Inkerman heights.

Convoys continue to arrive on the north side of Sebastopol.

I enclose a return of casualties to the 27th instant.

A further portion of the Sardinian contingent has arrived, under General La Marmora's brother, the details of which I have not yet received.—I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c., &c.

Vauxhall, May 30, 1855.

My dear Lord Raglan,—The expedition to this place so far has proved entirely successful, and we have got possession of all we proposed without striking a blow, and almost without firing a shot.

On leaving the anchorage off Sebastopol, on the 22nd, the night became so foggy that the fleet made but little progress towards its destination, but the whole of the ships and steamers reached the rendezvous, four leagues off Cape Takil, soon after daylight on the morning of the 24th, when it was agreed and determined to run in at once to the spot at which, as your lordship is aware, it was originally proposed to disembark, and which is five eighths of a mile from the point running out immediately under the village of Kenitch Bourounu.

The water in the straits is so shallow that large ships cannot ground higher than about three miles from this spot, but the steamers and vessels in which the whole of the British infantry and artillery were embarked, could get at least a mile nearer in it.

At the transports got as high up as the depth of water would permit, and came to an anchor about eleven, when the English and French troops began to get into the boats and small steamers, which were assigned to them, towed them to the shore, and the gun-boats and smaller war-steamers were stationed to scour the beach, and protect the disembarkation.

Although we had observed some six or eight pieces of light artillery following us along the shore, no opposition was made to the disembarkation, and the first of the troops reached the shore at ten o'clock, which, as soon as they were formed, were pushed on to occupy the village on the rising ground bordering the marshy plain, on which they landed for the purpose of covering the remainder of the disembarkation. As they were the most numerous, and as your lordship had done us so a former occasion, I placed the French on the right, and the British troops on the left, intending to hold the Turkish contingent in reserve.

Soon after the disembarkation had commenced, several loud explosions were heard, and it was soon discovered that the enemy had blown up the magazines of all his batteries on Cape St. Paul, and was retiring by the road leading to Theodosia or Kaffa. It therefore became exceedingly desirable that I should advance to occupy the ridge at which the cape is the continuation; but as only a few of the Turkish troops had got landed, and but little of the artillery, I contented myself by requesting General Dautemarre to patrol to the cape and towards Kertch, and took up the best position I could find for the security of the troops, and the protection of the disembarkation of all the necessary material and horses as ring the night, just before dark—which, in an open steppe, where we were exposed to the attacks of cavalry, was an operation of some difficulty.

In the course of the evening, several more loud explosions were heard, and it was soon discovered that he had also blown up and abandoned the whole of his works here, and along the coast between this and Kertch, and spiked all the guns. He had also set fire to and destroyed some large corn magazines in Kertch, as well as two steamers in the harbour; and the Cossacks, as usual, burnt all the forage and farmhouses in their way.

As soon as the batteries on Cape St. Paul were abandoned, or soon before, some of the smaller war steamers were enabled to round Cape Ackbournou, and enter the Bay of Kertch, where they engaged and endeavoured to cut off some of the enemy's steamers attempting to escape into the Sea of Azoff. They succeeded, I believe, in capturing a small one, but the other two managed to get through.

The disembarkation of horses, guns, and materials went on during the whole night, under the zealous and active superintendence of Rear-Admiral Houston Stewart and Captain Sir Thomas Pasley; but it was late before there was a good deal to be done at daylight this morning, and I was ultimately compelled to proceed with several of the guns of the Turkish contingent, and without any of their officers' horses.

Under the circumstances, however, I considered it imperative to proceed, and the whole force assembled off their ground at six this morning, the French in contiguous columns, followed by their artillery; the British in echelons of columns, covering their flank, and their own artillery and baggage; and the Turkish troops in contiguous columns of battalions, covering the rear of the whole until they approached the province of Kertch, when the whole of the troops broke into an ordinary column of route. The town of Kertch is open, and remarkably well built, and the troops passed through it with the greatest regularity and without the slightest disorder; subsequently the day became excessively hot, and the march, being a long one, the men suffered greatly from fatigue and want of water, which was only to be found at occasional wells. We managed to get in here, however, by one o'clock, where we were soon after visited by the three admirals, and found a large squadron of small steamers and gun-boats, ready to proceed into the Sea of Azoff, under the command of Captain Lyons, of the Miranda.

The result of these operations, besides the opening of the passage into that sea, and the destruction of the enemy's works, has been the capture of upwards of fifty of his guns, many of them of the largest calibre and the best construction; and if the enterprise has from circumstances not added greatly to the glory of her Majesty's arms, it has, as already stated, so far been attended by a signal success.

That success, however, is mainly to be attributed to the judicious arrangements of Admirals Bruat and Sir E. Lyons, and to their indefatigable attention in carrying them out, as well as to the able and willing assistance they have received from the captains and other officers of the French and British navy under their respective commands; nor must I omit to mention the invaluable and willing assistance I have on all occasions received in the course of this service from General Dautemarre, commanding the French Division, and from Rechid Pasha, commanding the Sultan's troops.

I omitted to state, that in passing through Kertch this morning, observing that an iron foundry there had been employed in the manufacture of shot and shells, as well as in casting Minié bullets, I caused it to be destroyed, with all its new and expensive machinery.—Yours, &c.,

G. Brown.

F. M. the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Expedition to Kertch. May 1855. A wrong letter sent by F. S. Dr Hall.

A WRONG LETTER DESPATCHED FROM THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF HOSPITALS IN THE CRIMEA. X.

A correspondent in the Crimea writes the following, under date of June the 26th:

"I recognise just about a month before a written despatch sent from the Crimea to England reappears in the Crimea printed in the gazette journals. It was therefore only a few days ago that we received the newspapers containing Lord Raglan's despatch, with inclosures of May the 29th. Among other enclosures is one from Inspector-Gen. Dr. Hall, on the health of the troops. Dr. Hall's letter is dated May-the 14th. A curious mistake, which has singularly enough not been discovered at home, is now brought to light; the real letter from Dr. Hall to the Commander-in-Chief must have gone astray—perhaps to the Director General in London—while the letter from Dr. Hall to his own medical department got into the hands of Lord Raglan, and so was transmitted to the military authorities in London. This is so obvious that it is remarkable it has not been already commented upon. The details of the two serious accidents—"one requiring amputation of the thigh on account of comminuted injury of the knee; the other an injury of the foot occasioned by the same shot, requiring removal of the heel and a bone adjoining it, called the astragalus"—as well as the account of "another interesting case," where, in consequence of the care of Staff Assistant Surgeon Taylor, "is judiciously drawing the parts together, the deformity will by no means be so considerable as might be imagined, and the man is now walking about, and, though he as yet requires to be fed through a tube, he is able to smoke his pipe"—these sufficiently point out that it was for the Lord Raglan—and the commander-in-chief—the report was written. Further on, in reference to the Russian sortie on the 11th, "in a case of musket ball lodged in the rectum just above the anus, the man must have been at or from above, as the ball entered the upper part of the head and lodged. The trephine was applied, and several spicula of bone, that had been driven down, were removed, but the ball was so deeply imbedded in the brain, it could not be discovered. He is still alive, but there is little or no hope of his ultimate recovery." Under the heading of "Light Division," where seven deaths occured, "one was a wound of the lung, one a wound of the abdomen, in which the small intestines were wounded; one a fracture of the skull by a musket-ball, &c." It is as well to publish that an accidental error caused these mistake to get into Lord Raglan's possession; otherwise, such an extraordinary measure as their appearance in the public document alluded to, confined in a despatch, might be attributed by our gallant allies and others to some especial order from the Field-Marshal on the subject. Some persons, perhaps, not reflecting how his lordship's time is occupied, might be led even to suppose that he was instituting inquiries into the nature and direction of the wounds inflicted by the several kinds of Russian missiles opposed to his troops.

The mistake is the more to be regretted, as Dr. Hall's real report to the Commander-in-Chief must have been a document containing not only matters of medical interest, but also a comprehensive view of the sanitary condition of the troops, and an interesting digest on the influences supposed to have been exerted on their health by atmospheric causes, diet, clothing, the various occupations and positions in different parts of the camp, baths, &c. It would have comprehended, also, some very instructive comparisons and observations obtained by intimate communication with the medical and sanitary authorities of the French and Ottoman armies.

* See page 114.

a See page 66

AN ACT OF COURAGE.

An officer of the 19th Regiment writes the following:

"Private John Lyons, of the Grenadier company of my regiment, performed a daring and gallant act in the Quarry work which our fellows took from the enemy the other evening. A 32-pounder shell sent from a battery near the Round Tower struck the ground short of the work, and thence, by ricochet, alighted on the parapet. From the parapet it rolled down to the inner side, among a group of men who were lying under its cover—some belonged to the Rifle Brigade, some to the 19th Regiment. There was seemingly no escape. The fuse was burning and blazing with that peculiar hissing noise which few can hear close to them without some degree of alarm. It was what is commonly called a 'live shell;' that is, a shell ready to scatter death and destruction on all around. A few moments, and the fuse would communicate with the bursting discharge, the shell would be rent to pieces, and no one could say how many would fall victims from its fragments. 'My God! we're all murdered,' cried out one of the men; but, on the instant, Lyons, who is a tall and exceedingly powerful man, started up, rushed to the shell, and, grasping in both hands the threatening missile, hurled it over the parapet. What a moment of suspense! but it was gone, and all danger was over. A second scarcely elapsed after it reached the ground on the opposite side when the explosion took place. The men who saw the thing done could hardly believe their eyesight, and only felt secure after the shell had burst. You may imagine there was no want of gratitude to their deliverer. An officer who also saw the occurrence reported it to the general, and as an account of the transaction, with the names of the witnesses, has been sent to Lord Raglan, I have no doubt the man will be rewarded. To perform an act of this kind requires the possession of many valuable soldier-like qualities. There must be courage, for the instant the shell is grasped it may explode, and the daring act would be immediately attended with the annihilation of the performer. There must be presence of mind, for half a minute's hesitation would destroy the chance of success. There must be an instinctive feeling for the general good, for the man might better hope to secure his individual preservation by other means. I trust that some more lasting memorial than a 5*l.* gratuity may be given to him. A short time ago a man of the 19th Regiment received 5*l.* as a reward for brave and distinguished conduct. The next morning he, and a goodly number of others, were brought up prisoners before the commanding officer. He had gone to the canteen the night before, and 'treated' all about him, until the five pounds were expended. The gratuity only brought trouble on himself and his friends, and what with the drunkenness and its usual consequence, I should think, the reminiscences of the event were anything but pleasant. I could not help contrasting the results of this man's bravery with the feelings engendered by another kind of encouragement in a Zouave, who was in our camp yesterday. He had been decorated for some act in the field, and, pointing to his little cross, said, with an amusing amount of rapture and attitudinizing, 'Ah! I'd rather go back to France with that on my breast than have the grade, even of captain, without it.' He had done something at the attack on the Mamelon which led him to expect some further decoration from the Emperor, and, moreover, the poor fellow was under the pleasing delusion that he was to get with it some sort of a cross of honour from the Queen of England. I don't know what gut this idea into his head, and didn't ask him, as I had no wish to undeceive him respecting his prospects on that score.

"I must tell you the reply of the soldier Lyons to an officer who remarked, 'But didn't you feel the weight, and think of the danger you were in from its bursting before you got the shell over?' 'The weight!' said the man, 'I wasn't conscious of feeling any weight at all; and as to its bursting, I knew I might as well be killed while I was throwing it over as lying on the ground.' And I believe the man stated what was perfectly true."

CAPTURE OF THE MAMELON, CAREENING BATTERIES, AND QUARRY.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The following appeared in our second edition yesterday:

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, June 9.

Important events have occurred since the last mail left for England. The bombardment has been renewed, and some of the enemy's most important works have been carried by assault. It is doubtful whether much advantage would have been obtained from the artillery alone, powerful beyond all precedent as its fire is, for the enemy seem to have adopted the plan of escaping from the terrible storm by excavating themselves and withdrawing the guns into places, close at hand, of comparative security. The deep solid earthworks although defaced, have not been destroyed; and, from the nature of the material, injuries are readily repaired. The assault has been directed against the works which the enemy advanced early in the spring of the present year, and which have gradually assumed a very formidable character. These include the redoubts in the East side of the Careening Bay ravine, called in the Russian despatches the Volhynia and Kamtschatka redoubts, and the large and commanding work on the Mamelon Vert-hill, called by the enemy the Kamptschatka redoubt, in front of the Malakhoff Tower and Korniloff bastion. The new work in front of the Redan, commonly known as the Quarry out-work, has also been taken. The grand attack on these works, and the events connected with their capture, will hereafter form one of the most memorable incidents in the prolonged siege of Sebastopol.

I resume my diary during the last few days:

June 5.

Intelligence reached the camp this morning that Admiral Boxer died last night, a little after 12 o'clock, on board ship at Balaklava, from cholera. His death following so quickly after that of his nephew, who was serving in his staff, combined with the fact of both having been previously in the enjoyment of robust health, sufficiently point to local causes as the source of the fatal disease which has so rapidly carried off these two officers. Balaklava and its neighbourhood are now the most unhealthy of all the positions occupied by the Allied armies. The regiments of Guards, and the Sardinians encamped above the harbour, are particularly suffering from cholera. Very few cases are occurring among the troops encamped on the heights above Sebastopol. In the latter position few persons are congregated beyond the regiments and the divisional staff departments, and there is now such a systematic attention paid to sanitary matters, both regimentally and by general staff arrangements, that the camps are as clean and well ordered as they would be after an occupation of only a few hours. Indeed, the perfect freedom from all brushwood and other means of concealment of noxious matters, and the well-trodden hardness of surface, by preventing malarious exhalations during this hot season, are perhaps more conducive to a pure state of the air than an encampment on fresh ground would be. Moreover, the elevated site, and the facilities of drainage by the ravines, the sea-breeze which sweeps this part of the plateau from all directions excepting the east and north-west, where it is shut in by mountains of a still higher elevation, or by the main land of the peninsula, all have a healthy tendency. At Balaklava itself, and on the sides of the hills surrounding it, the conditions which exist are directly the reverse of these. The fœtid harbour, crowded with ships, and a receptacle for every species of refuse, is now covered with a green vegetating surface, indicative of its stagnant, pool-like character; while an offensive effluvium is constantly drawn upward by the sun's rays. Between the rows of ships, and around their sides, a putrefactive process must be constantly going on among the animal and vegetable matters floating about, and the gaseous products must mingle with the atmosphere and still further add to its impure state. Numberless other sources, arising from the crowds of settlers, labourers, and camp followers, congregated between Kadikoi and Balaklava, and the vast collection of horses and mules feed also to the same result, while the high mountains of the sea-coast act as a wall, in confining the poisoned atmosphere within certain limits.

To the pernicious influence of a vitiated atmosphere, Admiral Boxer's disease is no doubt in a great degree attributable, for insensible as is the disease of cholera in its essence, no one now, who has studied the subject, hesitates to receive the assertion that its development is favoured by the same circumstances that assist in diffusing typhus and other such pests. It was the Admiral's boat, that he had never taken a dose of medicine in his life; an assertion illustrative of the general vigor of his frame. Though rough in manners, and in appearance and conversation a sailor of the "old school," yet every one knew that he was as honest as he was blunt, and that under the rugged exterior lay a large amount of kindliness of disposition. At Quebec, in which port he performed the duties of Harbour Master from the time of his retirement from active service in the Mediterranean, where he so much distinguished himself under Admiral Stopford, until his own promotion to Admiral's rank, he was universally respected, both in his private and public capacity. At Constantinople and at Balaklava he met with difficulties of a complicated and peculiar kind; very different in nature and degree from those of the great post, much frequented as it is, of the St. Lawrence, and requiring a very different character and temper to grapple with them. Judging from the reports of those who have most intimately mixed with Admiral Boxer of late in business, it would appear that he never spared himself any trouble; on the contrary, that one of his chief faults in administration was his trusting too much to his own personal exertion, and depending too little on that general supervision and direction which more properly belonged to his high rank and position. His sudden death has made the deeper impression from its so quickly following that of Captain Chetwin, with whom his name had been so frequently associated. He is to be buried this afternoon near the Naval Hospital over Balaklava, and many officers of both services intend to testify by their presence the respect in which they hold the memory of the late gallant admiral.

A report is going about the camp that a Polish officer of some standing in the Russian service, has come over and given important information. According to the current version of the story, the news of the successes of the Allies in the Sea of Azoff, has produced a powerful effect on the Russian Generals. For some days past, Councils of War have been held, on two or three occasions twice on the same day, at which there has been great diversity of opinion, one party advocating a general attack against the batteries and works of the Allies, another recommending that a passive resistance should be preserved. A general depression of spirits is said to prevail among the troops, on account of the great amount of sickness, both in Sebastopol and in the camps.

A fire broke out in the town, on the left this morning, in a direction between Fort Alexander and the Quarantine Fort, and the French have been throwing shells for the purpose of preventing it from being extinguished. It does not appear to be spreading.

A little after noon a long convoy of carts made its appearance on the north side, coming from the direction of the camp, toward Fort Sievernaia. About an hour afterwards, a sudden explosion took place in the line, and two columns of smoke rose in the air. As far as could be ascertained by the telescope, two wagons, carrying gunpowder, seemed to have been blown up.

The enemy again commenced about 7, p.m., throwing shot in the direction of the entrance to the middle ravine. A number of shots have also been thrown on the open space in front of the First Brigade of the Light Division. No casualty has occurred. So little annoyance or alarm is caused to the troops by these missiles, that, directly one falls, they crowd round the place where it has sunk into the ground, and set to work to dig it up from its hole. Indeed "dodging" these long bowls, which cause a loud rushing noise in their descent, would appear to a stranger to be rather a matter of amusement among the men than otherwise.

June 6.

A sunny hot morning. The Russians recommenced their practice against the Victoria Redoubt hill. They had no doubt seen, through the opening made by the ravine, the troops at drill in this position. One or two shots fell near the hospital tents of the 33rd Regiment, but did no harm.

Omer Pasha made a feint of moving his troops further on in a direction towards Baidar this morning.

It is now generally known that the new batteries are to open their fire this afternoon, and everyone is in high spirits at the prospect of active operations.

7 p.m.—The bombardment opened at 2 p.m., and a tremendous fire has been since directed against the enemy's fortifications. About one o'clock long lines of artillerymen and sailors were seen to be threading their way along the ravines leading to the several batteries. At that time all the guns on the right and centre of the general lines of attack and defence were silent; a few guns only were being worked on the extreme left. Some of these were apparently directed from the sea-batteries against four men-of-war steamers, two French and two English, which had approached the shore off Fort Quarantine. The two English vessels appeared like the Queen and London. They were out of range, and the latter was quietly engaged in target practice. The balls could be seen in the distance by the splash of the water, ricochetting in a direction parallel with the coast. Fort Constantine, from the guns on its roof, was occasionally throwing a shell over the mouth of the harbour and the opposite part of the town, to the French approaches near the cemetery. The heat was very great; notwithstanding the refreshing breeze which was blowing over the heights, the thermometer, placed on the ground in the open air, indicated a temperature of 99 degrees Fahr. This comparative stillness continued until just 2 o'clock, when the loud boom of a gun resounded from the French works on Mount Sapone. These were followed in quick succession by other guns, the shore being discharged against the Kamptschka Redoubt on the Mamelon Vert. The Russian redoubts on Mount Sapone (east of Careening Bay) quickly replied. The guns on the left French attack, next took up the fire, then our guns on the left attack, and lastly those on our right attack. The combined roar of the artillery was fearfully grand. In a short space of time, from the French batteries on the sea-shore, to their works on the Inkermann heights, dense columns of white smoke arose, so as almost to form one continuous cloud, veiling every thing beyond from view. The wind blew from the north-west, and drove the smoke along the ravines and over the hills to the camp, where the atmosphere assumed for some distance the condition and aspect of a fog. The Russians had this time the advantage of the wind being in their favour. Very little could be seen, even although spents were now and then cleared by particular currents of wind; but the deep, thunder-like tones, of the cannon at the moment of discharge, and the loud rush through the air of the shot, and the comparatively uniform intensity of sound, bespoke the weight of the metal which together was forming the tremendous raining upon the lines and earthworks of Sebastopol. It could easily be distinguished that no guns of small calibre were among the number.

Our casualties, as yet, have been very few, both among the men of the Naval Brigade and those of the Royal Artillery. The Russian shot have fallen wide of their mark. Precision of aim could not be looked for in face of such a storm.

Captain Mortimer Adye, R.A., has been brought into camp severely scorched. He experienced a miraculous escape. He was standing with a sergeant and bombadier when a shell exploded in front of them. The blaze singed the hair and skin of all three, the sergeant being most severely injured, but no one was struck by any portion of the fragments.

Lord Raglan, who, at the opening of the fire, took up a position in front of the Third Division, afterwards passed round the camp, and called at the Right

Siege Train to inquire respecting the casualties. The troops loudly cheered the Field Marshal as he rode by. General Pelissier, with a large staff, also passed toward the Victoria Redoubt, and was greeted with loud cheers.

9 p.m. During the last two or three hours the Russians have fired very sparingly, scarcely one in ten of the rate at which they at first replied to our batteries. The Mamelon Redoubt was perfectly silent during one hour, then, commencing at the left, fired once from each embrasure. It appeared as if done out of bravado.

June 7.

Shortly after sunset the Russians ceased firing from their batteries. An incessant shelling was kept up all night from our works, to prevent the enemy from repairing damages. So silent were the Russian works, that it seemed probable the guns had been drawn from the embrasures and placed behind the parapets, and that the gunners themselves had also retired to places of shelter. At 8 a.m., however, they again opened fire, but even this seemed to have a limited number of artillerymen, for only two or three guns were served at one time to each battery.

10 a.m.—An explosion took place in our 8-gun battery, right attack. Two shells burst on the roof of the magazine, without doing any material damage; a third fell, and penetrated into the interior. A portion only of the gunpowder was exploded. A quantity of fuzes were lost. No one was killed, and only two men wounded. The mischief done to the work will be repaired without much cost of time or labour.

Captain George Frederick Dawson, Royal Engineers, was killed this morning. He had only joined the army on the evening of the 5th instant, and this morning for the first time entered the trenches. He had not been there an hour, when he was struck in the head by a round shot, and died instantaneously. So abrupt a termination of his career has caused all his comrades much distress. He was already favourably known in his profession.

A few hours after the bombardment opened yesterday some masses of clouds gathered over the mountains overlooking the Tchernaya valley. They have gradually increased, and now this morning a heavy thunderstorm on the right is mingling its salvos with the roar of the artillery.

It has become known that operations are to be commenced in earnest this evening. The French are to assault the Kamptschatka Redoubt on the Mamelon Hill, and also the redoubt on the east side of Careening Bay. As soon as the Mamelon is secured, the English are to take the Quarry work in front of the Redan, and the Russian trenches in front of French-man's hill. The French have had served out to them cooked rations for 48 hours, and a pint of wine each. All are in high spirits, eager for the struggle, and confident of the result.

5 p.m.—A very exciting scene has just transpired. The French divisions have been marching to the attack. The Second Division, with General Camou at the front, led the way. About six or seven hundred yards from the entrance to the Karabelnia ravine the regiments were halted, and shortly afterwards General Bosquet arrived, with his staff, and addressed a few words to each regiment in turn. By each, at the conclusion of his remarks, the General was greeted with loud cheers. The order to move forward was then given. A battalion of the Algerian troops led the way, marching in column of subdivisions. They left behind their white turbans, and wore only the scarlet fez, blue open jackets, and blue vests, with yellow embroidery, their trowsers in ample folds, of the same colour, contracted only at the waist and in the leg, where the yellow leather gaiters and white gaiters covered them, their bare necks, their light elastic tread, all presented a perfect picture of manly ease and activity. Their swarthy, and in many instances, jet black countenances, betokened excitement and delight; they gave vent to their feelings in exclamations which only those used in African warfare are familiar with; and seemed with difficulty to restrain themselves to the measured tread of the march. They were followed by three battalions of the 50th Regiment of the Line. The 3rd Regiment of Zouaves came after, powerful, active, sunburnt Europeans, in their flattern costume and agile movement seeming the twin brothers of the Algerines who had preceded them. The Chasseurs à pied, who followed, with their generally small but well proportioned frame, formed a striking contrast with the robust bearded Zouaves before them, but seemed admirably adapted in size, and in their more closely fitting dark blue costume, to the service for which they are particularly trained and organised. These battalions of the 6th, and afterwards three battalions of the 7th Regiments of the Line succeeded. Altogether about 12,000 men went by in this division. Groups of men belonging to the two Brigades of the British Light Division, some fully equipped, some half dressed, for parading previous to taking their part in the British right attack, ran and assembled on each side of the sloping hills forming the commencement of the ravine, and greeted each regiment as it passed with loud cheers. The French officers and men joining heartily, returned the salutation. Soon after the 7th Regiment had passed, a battalion of the Imperial Guard marched forward, apparently picked men, and followed the attacking columns.

The Second Division was scarcely lost to sight in the winding valley of the ravine, when the Fifth Division came in sight. This body of troops had been brought up from the plain during the night; they had quitted it at 2 a.m., and arrived at their position in the camp before Sebastopol at 7 a.m. Their move could hardly have been observed by the Russian pickets about the Tchernaya. This division, under General Brunet, was arranged to form the working party, to secure the hold of the Mamelon Vert as soon as the attacking columns had taken it. It included the 4th battalion of the Chasseurs à pied, with the 11th, 25th, 60th, and 16th regiments of the Line, altogether 10,000 men. At the same time, Omer Pasha moved with a force, apparently about 15,000 strong, of Ottomans and Egyptians, and occupied the space on which was formerly encamped the 2nd British division, and the brigade of Guards, near the Inkermann heights. These troops had also come up during the night from the Baluklava plain. They protected the right flank against any attack from the Russian forces encamped on the North heights and Inkermann mountains, who might, otherwise, with impunity have come up by way of the Inkermann valley, and sought to annoy the troops engaged in the attack on the Russian works in front.

Soon after the French divisions had passed down the ravine, General Pelissier, with General Canrobert, and an immense staff, amid loud cheering, rode past the front of the British troops, and, going by the right of the Victoria Redoubt, took up his station in a semi-outwork, made for the purposes of observation, about five hundred yards in advance. From this observatory a full view could be obtained of the operations on the right of the Careening Bay ravine, as well as of those immediately in front against the Kamptschatka redoubt on the Mamelon Vert. Lord Raglan, it was understood, was to take up his position in advance of the Third Division, whence there was a good view of the Quarry in front of the Redan, the more immediate object of the British attack. This quarry cannot be seen from the look-out station near the Victoria redoubt, being concealed by a hog's-back rise in the fore part of Frenchman's hill.

The English troops told off for the attack of the Quarry, and the Russian rifle pits and trenches in front of the works of Frenchman's hill (the British right attack), were now in the advanced parallel and its approaches. A detachment of 100 men of the 88th Regiment, from the second brigade of the Light Division, and a like number of the 7th Fusiliers from the first brigade, together with a similar force taken from the 47th and 49th Regiments of the Second Division, were reserved for the attack. They were under the immediate command of Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, of the 90th Regiment. Colonel Shirley, of the 88th Regiment, was the General in command in the trenches of the Right attack on this evening. The working parties were supplied in certain proportions by nearly every regiment of the Light Division. All the troops not thus employed remained under arms in reserve.

Half-past six.—Four incendiary rockets have just taken their flight from the Victoria Redoubt towards the town. They are the signal for the starting of the attacking columns. Now the French, if they exhibit in the contest the same ardour as they showed when moving towards it, will, in their immense strength, carry all before them, and no one doubts that they will do so. Some, over sanguine, think that Sebastopol itself is in their possession; yet every spectator, whether among the reserved troops in the batteries, among those assembled in rear of them, or among those on the more elevated sites who have come from Balaklava or elsewhere, feel anxiety, knowing how alert and ingenious in devices is the enemy to be coped with. The prevailing idea is that the Mamelon redoubt is deeply mined and that, even if taken, an explosion may cause a catastrophe to the first occupants. All eyes are directed towards it. But whatever the thoughts and anxieties of the spectators, little of such feelings seemed to find place in the minds of the combatants. At the signal of the first

rocket they were all formed, and at the third rocket were seen on the right above Careening Bay, and along the advanced trench at the foot of the Mamelon — a living mass. The fourth rocket had no sooner taken its flight than the parapets were cleared. Forward went the lines, throwing out a cloud of skirmishers. The Russian trenches on the side of the Mamelon Vert were climbed over, trench after trench, apparently without any opposition. Then the steep sides of the hill were mounted. The French were seen in three columns, one ascending towards the west face, another towards the east face of the works, while the third moved directly up towards the face fronting the Victoria Redoubt. But the whole surface of the hill was soon covered with their skirmishers. After one discharge from some of the heavy guns, the Russians got into the embrasures and upon the parapets, and fired a few shots from their rifles, without, seemingly, doing any execution; but the valleys from the shrubberies, or else the consciousness of the inutility of resistance, compelled them quickly to retire. Their fume was evidently small. They had not expected an attack at such an hour, by daylight. Nothing could be finer than the "dash" with which the French troops ascended the steep slope,—a natural glacis,—towards the parapets. The Russians were evidently staggered. At first, the Malakhoff batteries and the Redan offered no attempt to impede the progress of the assailants. Whether the tremendous fire which was poured against them from the English batteries of both the Left and Right attacks restrained them, or whether they were bewildered at the nature of the assault, they scarcely fired a shot while the first columns of French mounted the hill. Presently the French were swarming into the embrasures, mounting on the parapets, and descending into the work. Shortly afterwards the Russians were observed escaping by the way leading from the redoubt towards the hill crowned by the ruins of the Malakhoff Tower and the numerous batteries around it. Here, to all appearance, occurred the grand mistake, which subsequently entailed a great loss of life among our Allies. The arrangements had been made for taking and securing the large redoubt on the Mamelon hill, but it was not intended to go further at that moment. Such, however, was the impetuosity of the troops, such the excitement of the officers and men at their first success, that they could not resist the pursuit of the Russians on the one hand, or the attempt to storm the Malakhoff itself. Between the Malakhoff and Mamelon hills is a deep saddle-like hollow. Across this saddle, dipping down towards the right of the Malakhoff hill, is the ordinary way of communication between the Marine suburb and Mamelon. In this direction the Russian troops took their flight, and these and their pursuers were soon lost to sight behind the ridge. But the great body of the French troops moved straight across the saddle and mounted the Malakhoff hill. The Russians, aware of their danger, poured down a heavy fire upon the assailants from the batteries, and apparently brought field pieces so as to take them in rear. In spite of these, the French still mounted and at last were seen to reach the shattle work drawn around the hill. So short a distance was this from the lower tier of batteries that the Russians could no longer depress guns sufficiently to bear upon them, and standing upon the parapets they were seen to throw large stones, besides keeping up a heavy musketry fire, against the French. The French had evidently met with a difficulty they could not conquer; they were observed to be looking on all sides for an opportunity of advance, but yet were unable to move on. Presently a sudden sense of their dangerous position seemed to seize them, and they retired back towards the Mamelon. The Russians by this time had assembled their reinforcements behind the Malakhoff works, and, as the French were moving along the dip of the saddle towards the Mamelon, these troops were seen to come up in a dense mass, pouring a heavy flanking fire against our Allies. At the same time they came within range of the guns of the works around the Malakhoff Tower (the Kornilof Bastion), which notwithstanding the shower of shell and rockets from our batteries kept up a galling fire against the French as they retired. Some confusion ensued, the Russians followed the French into the Kamptschatka redoubt, and the latter were next compelled to evacuate it. That was a time of deep anxiety for all who were watching the engagement. But confidence was again restored when the French, who had descended the Mamelon Hill, were seen to be steadily re-forming in the Russian trenches which surrounded its base. Up they went again, sending a shower of balls among the Russians, who were now in crowds covering the parapets. The Redoubt was fringed with smoke and flames from the fire of the Russian rifles against the French as they mounted the hill, and the hill side was covered with the fire of the assailants. It was now a few minutes before eight o'clock, a dense bank of black clouds rested on the horizon, and the sun had just sunk behind it. The Russians made for some time a gallant resistance, but in vain; as the French mounted they were seen to waver, and just as the French reached the parapets, they leaped down and retired. Our Allies were again masters of the Mamelon Vert. In vain the shipping in the harbour, the guns from the batteries on the west side of Careening Bay, and some on the north side of the roadstead, tried to drive them away. The guards were thrown out, and the working parties speedily set to work to turn the redoubt against its late possessors.

While this had been going on, a sharp struggle had ensued between the French and Russian troops occupying the redoubts on the east side of the Careening bay ravine. The French had been seen to rush from their advanced approach, and from the right flank of their works, towards the foremost redoubt. In front of this were two large ambuscades and a trench; one volley appeared to be fired by the redmen in the pit, after which they hastily fell back on the redoubt. The contest at the first redoubt was speedily settled; at the second redoubt the resistance was more obstinate. Here the Russians had a deep and secure covered approach, which descended the slope of the cliff, crossed the ravine, and was connected with a like approach from the Mamelon redoubt. A complete parallel was thus formed. The enemy in the Careening bay redoubts were evidently dismayed when they saw the Mamelon Vert fall into the hands of the French, for this principal communication by which supports could arrive to them was thus cut off, and they were not in strength sufficient without reinforcements to resist with effect the overpowering force of their antagonists. They retired therefore partly by the covered way, and partly towards the slope of the hill, as it falls upon the roadstead, and the work remained in the hands of the French. A large number of prisoners was taken in these redoubts. The number of guns, including some field-pieces, taken by the French, is stated to be twenty-four; the heavier guns were spiked.

As soon as the Mamelon was taken by the French, the order was given by Colonel Campbell for the small force told off for attacking the quarry to advance. One end of the quarry, that looking eastward in a direction towards the Malakhoff Tower, was connected with three parallels which the Russians had dug in front of the most advanced works on Frenchman's Hill to prevent our further advance. The large rifle-pit which the Russians contrived to throw up after "Egerton's pit" had been taken from them, was connected with the foremost of these parallels. When the order was given for our attacking party to advance, the 88th and 7th rushed out from the right of the zigzag approach on the left of our advanced work, the men of the 47th and 49th regiments from the left of this approach. While some rushed up the hill towards the Quarry, others took possession of the enemy's rifle pit and advanced trench. It appeared that the Russians on seeing the attack of the French against the Mamelon had moved along their trenches towards the right, where they became connected with the trenches or other works on the Malakhoff hill, so that the left, that side against which our men advanced, was almost wholly deserted. A trifling opposition met with in the Quarry itself was quickly removed, and our troops congratulated themselves on having gained an easy victory. Carried away by their enthusiasm, they even advanced towards the Redan, and perhaps, had they been in force, such was the confusion and alarm of the Russians, they might have carried this important work. As it was, the enemy returned with comparatively powerful reinforcements, and suddenly opened a flanking fire, which compelled our men to abandon the quarry. It was not armed as had been anticipated. A second time our men moved against this work, and took it from the enemy, who had again entered it; nor was this the last time, for still later in the evening a third contest for its possession took place, which ended as before, in our being victors, but at a severe expense. No less than eighteen officers, and a large number of men, amounting to upwards of half the original attacking force, were placed hors de combat, including killed and wounded. Col. Campbell behaved with the most determined gallantry. He was struck no less than four times, and once so severely by a musket ball, which providentially was prevented from inflicting a more serious wound by striking the front

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of his sword hilt, had fragmented. Nothing but the unflinching bravery of the troops could have enabled them to retain the Quarry after they had wrested it from the enemy. The ground at the back of the Quarry was fortunately found to be loose and soft, so that the working party were enabled to throw up some cover in this direction without much difficulty. Our exact loss is not known, nor will it be until after an armistice has enabled the dead outside to be collected, and communications to be made respecting prisoners. Major Edward Bayley, of the 88th regiment, lost one hand, and has received a wound in the body, which, it is feared, must speedily prove fatal. Captain Maynard, of the same regiment, received a gunshot wound in the arm, and Lieut. Kenny in the foot. Lieut. Grier is also said to be wounded, but slightly. Captain Jackson Wray, and Captain Edmund Corbett, fell gloriously in the attack. Captain Webb is missing, and, as he was known to have been wounded, it is supposed he has fallen into the hands of the enemy. Several officers of the 7th Fusiliers were wounded, but none dangerously. Major Mills received a gunshot wound in the thigh. Both officers of the name of Jones, and familiarly called Alun Jones, and Inkermann Jones, to distinguish them from each other, were hit, but fortunately escaped with slight contusions. Major Armstrong was severely hurt by an explosion a few yards from Egerton's rifle-pit. The Russians had mined the ground here, and were gradually advancing toward the pit itself. Their working party had been heard several nights before, but as there were no fresh mounds, the plans of their working could not be discovered, and it was a matter of surprise the following morning that no evidence appeared anywhere of work having been done. They had, as was now proved, been excavating under ground, the mine being prolonged from within their advanced parallel. Lieutenant Maclean Lawrence, of the 34.5 regiment, who was wounded a few nights since, was killed. Captains John Peel and Brown Westhead, of the same regiment, and Lieut. Saunders were wounded. Lieut. Lloyd-Lloyd is reported to be missing. Of the Royal Engineers, Lieut. Graves Lowry, a general favourite and most active officer, was killed by a musket shot, which penetrated the back of the neck. He is said to have volunteered for duty with the morning outcome whenever a general assault might take place. Lieutenant Anderson, 96th regiment, doing duty as an assistant engineer, was also wounded by a musket ball, but not dangerously. The casualties have been scattered among so many various regiments, and the statements given by those most closely engaged are so imperfect and often contradictory, that until the regular returns are collected and published, no satisfactory conclusions can be made either as to the extent or precise nature of our losses.

The loss of the French is variously reckoned from eleven to fourteen hundred in killed and wounded. Many of their bodies are lying scattered over the Malakhoff Hill. The number of Russians lying upon the Mamelon Hill is immense; the slaughter chiefly occurred when the French, after their temporary retirement from the Mamelon redoubt, returned with renewed energy to the attack against the Russian reinforcements, and drove them back behind the Malakhoff. The Zouaves again suffered severely. The 6th regiment of the line is also said to have lost a great proportion of officers.

JUNE 8.

The working parties have not been idle. The wall of the covered approach leading up to the redoubt on Mount Sapone has been turned, and now faces toward Careening bay. The embrasures of the Mamelon redoubt have been converted into lodgements for riflemen on the sides facing the French and English frontiers, and some guns, probably field pieces, have been turned toward the enemy. The covered approach from the left of the Mamelon redoubt toward the Karabelnaia ravine has been reversed in its sap, and the French troops are now safely placed under its protection. A new covered approach has been carried up from our advanced zigzag in the right attack to the Quarry, and on all sides our new acquisitions appear secure.

A report of the deaths of Lieut.-Colonel Sherman, Major Dickson, and Captain Forster of the 62nd regiment, has circulated through the camp. It is stated that they were holding the Quarry, and that a round shot from the enemy wounded fatally these officers, and committed great havoc among several non-commissioned officers of the regiment besides. Captain Ingall is said also to be wounded, but not severely.

Several bodies of troops have been observed to come over from the North side. Some barges have also been towed over, conveying what appeared to be stores of ammunition. The enemy have scarcely fired at all from the Redan; and only four guns have been worked in the Malakhoff batteries. An incessant discharge of shells was kept up all night from our mortars against these two series of batteries. Some carcasses were also thrown from our left attack into the town. As they were discharged from a very advanced position, the charge or powder was not required to be so great as that which caused them to burst, and destroyed their efficiency, when thrown from the first parallels in the two attacks a few nights ago. A fire at present burning in the town, but seemingly confined to one small house, is attributed to the action of one of these missiles.

Various rumours are prevailing as to the intended operations to-night. Among the French a belief prevails that a regular attack is to be made against the Malakhoff hill, while the English assault the Redan. An attack by the enemy, with a view to recover some of his losses, is not considered unlikely. An attempt was made on the Quarry at daybreak this morning, but was quickly repulsed. A vigorous fire of musketry from the troops within it, and some deadly discharges from the four-gun battery near our advanced work on Frenchman's hill, compelled the Russians to retire. They were in great force. These continued reverses cannot but have had a very dispiriting influence on their troops, and now that sufficient time has elapsed to strengthen our newly-gained positions, we have no reason to anticipate any untoward result even should the enemy advance in considerable number.

Strong gales of wind from the north-east, and clouds of dust have been sweeping over the camp nearly the whole day.

JUNE 9.

No event of importance took place during the night. The Russians made no advance, their fire was generally slack: a few shells and occasionally some round shot were thrown from the line of batteries extending from the west side of Careening Bay to the Karabelnaia suburb in rear of the Malakhoff hill, and were directed against the redoubts now in possession of our Allies on the right of Careening Bay. The shipping also threw a few shells at the Mamelon redoubt. Our shelling has been kept up all night without interruption, and a heavy fire is still going on from our batteries.

Nothing more is known of the intentions respecting a further assault, but it will probably not be long before the attack is made against the Redan and Malakhoff positions.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, JUNE 12.

The assault against the Redan and the Malakhoff works has not been carried into execution. It was generally anticipated that the letters of this mail would have conveyed intelligence that these positions were in our possession. No doubt there are ample reasons for the attempt having been deferred, but they are known only to the generals in command. All the explanations which are bruited about in the camp are mere surmises, formed from personal observation or conjecture. The most pressing event since the last mail has been the sudden arrest of the fire from our batteries. The Redan and Malakhoff works may be said to have been wholly demolished for they were little more than a heap of ruins; and so tremendous was the power of our batteries that the Russian artillery men scarcely dared to approach the two or three guns which remained in a working condition in either position. When the new French batteries are completed, their destruction, for the enemy is already taking advantage of the lull to re-establish works, will be effected with less difficulty than has occurred on the occasion which has just passed. Still the prevalent opinion is that the bombardment might have been escaped from, and that both the Redan and the Malakhoff might have been carried by assault and held, without much loss of life, if the undertaking had been carried into execution before the enemy had completed his preparations to resist it.

The following are notes of some of the occurrences during the last few days:

June 9.—The following was published last evening, after the general orders had been issued:

Head-quarters before Sebastopol, June 8, 1855.

The Commander of the Forces desires to congratulate the army upon the achievement of last night.

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The attack was vigorously conducted and nobly executed; and although no official report has yet been made, he considers it due to the officers and men engaged in the assault of the Quarries to thank them for their gallant exertions, and to assure them that he will not fail to represent them to the government, for her Majesty's information, in the terms that their conduct so fully merits.

He laments most deeply the loss of those who have fallen upon this memorable occasion, and sympathises most sincerely in the sufferings of the wounded.—By order,

(Signed) J. Simpson, Chief of the Staff.

I find I understated considerably the number of guns and mortars taken by the French. Inclusive of all pieces, as well those found in the Mamelon Redoubt as in the redoubts on the east side of the Careening-bay Ravine, the number taken amounted to 68. Of these a considerable proportion were new, lying on the ground ready to replace those which might be injured in the embrasures. Some few remaining in position in the batteries were spiked. A large quantity of gunpowder, fuzees, shells, and shot were also secured. Three large mortars, and several smaller mortars which had not yet been used, were found in the Mamelon Redoubt.

Our men who were occupying the Quarry outwork yesterday suffered severely, chiefly from some guns connected with the Garden batteries, on the west side of the South Harbour, which the enemy brought to bear upon the work. One or two guns, out of sight, but near the Barrack Battery, also bore upon it. The fire from our left attack kept the opposition under in some degree, but the Russians persevered with much obstinacy, and throughout the day on the left of the Quarry and in part of the new trench leading up to it, it continued to be "very hot." Above the Quarry, and for about one-third of the distance between it and the Redan, is a gradual rise in the ground, and this knoll under any circumstances would prevent the guns of the Redan from being depressed so low as to reach the Quarry. The shot would penetrate the crest of the knoll if the attempt were made, or would pass over the work. However, no gunner can now show himself at the Redan; not to mention the heavy fire against it from our batteries, the riflemen stationed on the right of the Quarry, and along what is now our most advanced work, are able to keep it completely silent. Some guns on the left of the Malakhoff would be able to sweep it, and part of the old Russian trench recovered with it; but they are now controlled by the powerful fire from our batteries in the right attack.

There was not found to be any deep excavation at the Quarry—nothing, indeed, to warrant this name, which has been given to it in the English camp generally. Some stones had been dug out, but very superficially; and the part of the rocky knoll from which they had been taken was entirely below, and on one side of the work which was subsequently constructed by the Russians, and which was the object of the late contest. The site from which the stones had been removed was evidently selected for the convenience of carrying them away by the Woronzoff road, which passes by at a short distance on the left, to turn towards the South harbour. The loose stone had been employed to a great extent in the formation of the parapet of the work. Within the work, which was of a crescentic form, traversing platforms had been completed for four guns, and everything was ready for them to be brought into position. It appeared as if the enemy were only waiting for the first dark night to bring the guns down. There was a sort of place d'armes, also, cleared under shelter of the parapets — a space of sufficient extent for about a company of men to be formed up in it. Our right of this work, the red trench the Mamelon, was connected with three covered approaches. One, that nearest to our advanced work, led into the Russian rifle-pits, which they constructed after "Egerton's Pit" had been taken, and then passed along the foot of Frenchman's-hill, and crossed the Karabelnaia ravine, to be connected with the approach to the Mamelon Redoubt; the second extended only a short distance; the third, still further back, ran nearly parallel with the first, and near the ravine, became connected with it. The first and third were also directly connected by trenches which crossed from the latter and communicated with the two rifle-pits in the first parallel. All these are now in our possession. Considerably further back, on the right of the Redan work, the Russians hold another parallel; but between this and the Quarry work and trenches there is at present only open ground.

The acquisition of these works has led to a complete change in the disposition of all the lines on our right attack; a corresponding change having been effected at the same time by the French in their lines as far as the right of the Careening Bay ravine. A boyau has been carried up from the sigeze on the left of our advanced parallel, near "Egerton's rifle-pit," directly up to the Quarry work; the parapet of the Russian trenches has been turned; and these together now form our third, or strictly our fourth parallel. The parallel, however, made just in rear of our old advanced work, and which contained the breaching batteries, is usually spoken of as part of the advanced work, and therefore included in our second parallel; the new parallel taken from the Russians is on this account now called our third parallel. About forty yards in front of the Mamelon Redoubt, between it and the Malakhoff-hill, the French have dug a trench; this is connected on the left with the old Russian approach which joined what is now our third parallel. Our allies have also turned the Russian approach to the Selinghinsk redoubt, above the Careening harbour. This trench, which crosses the Careening Bay ravine, and ascends the right of the Mamelon hill, is made to connect with the trench in front of the Mamelon redoubt, and now forms the advanced parallel in this direction. Taken together, there is now a continuous parallel from the incline of Mount Sapoune, above the Careening Bay ravine, on the right, to the Quarry below; to Redan on the left. The great importance of this g neral advance is at once obvious. It destroys all the advantages gained by the Russians in that series of counter-approach operations which began on the night of the 21st of February last in the construction of the Selinghinsk redoubt, and which terminated in the formation of the Kamtschatka Redoubt, with its outworks on the Mamelon Vert, and almost ensures to us a speedy victory over the Karabelnaia suburb of Schastopol.

Lieut.-Colonel Sherman and Captain Forster, of the 62nd regiment, who were killed early in the morning of yesterday, near the Quarry, were at the time in the Russian approach leading to the advanced parallel. The ball found shot killed and wounded seven others. It came from a gun at the Garden battery, which enfiladed this part of the trench. Capt. Ingall, of the same regiment, was wounded at the same time. Major Dickson was killed by a rifle ball.

A very large body of the enemy was observed last night to be filling sandbags at the rifle-pits near the extremity of the south harbour. About fifteen hundred men appeared to be employed in this occupation. They were seen until it became dark going and returning with the bags, but as the troops went behind the works in a direction towards the barracks they were lost to view, and the destination of these materials could not be traced.

An important point has been established with regard to the Redan; there were no retrenchments behind it, nor any work immediately commanding it. If, therefore, the necessary dispositions had been made for an assault against it, and the Malakhoff hill works, there is no doubt that both would have been carried and held. Our fire on the Redan and Malakhoff has prevented any alteration in the condition of the works from being made, and there is a general expectation that the assault against them will be put into execution immediately. The desire that this exploit should be undertaken at once arises from several causes. It is believed, notwithstanding the reinforcements which have arrived on the south side, that the task would be accomplished without much loss of life, or at least not so much as must occur in the trenches during a prolonged approach, and, in addition, that the difficulties of the undertaking will be hourly increased by delay.

The enemy abandoned this morning their third, five-gun, battery on Mount Sapoune. This earthwork was thrown up about a month since, and was on the extreme point of the ridge nearest to the Careening harbour, just where the spur begins to incline down to the roadstead and port. It could not have been held, now that the French are masters of the other two redoubts.

There was an armistice a little after noon to-day, which lasted nearly four hours and a half. It soon became generally known that the fire had ceased for the purpose of burying the dead, and as the space then left free from risk to spectators was very extensive, many went forward to inspect the scene of the late encounters. The ground between the Malakhoff and Mamelon hills was most occupied by visitors. The Russians drew up a cordon of troops across the slope of the Malakhoff, and the French threw out sentries in front of the Mamelon. The intermediate space was neutral ground; and here occurred a repetition of the scene which took place on March the 24th last. Officers of all the armies in the Crimea met, and occasionally entered into familiar intercourse. The superior Russian officers were very polite and affable, but some of lower grades, as well as the men generally, were a sullen and resentful look. The men appeared fagged and tired. There

were several general officers present, all young men. At a little distance they could not have been distinguished from the private soldier; they wore the same long grey coat, the same hand-dress, and it required close inspection of the straps upon the shoulders, the embroidery on the cap, and the metal buttons, before the difference in dress could be noted. The subject of the late conflict was generally, by mutual consent, avoided; but in one case, when it was introduced into conversation, the Russian said that we had taken the redoubts only in consequence of the hour at which we had made the attack. If we had come against them after dark, we should have found them in all respects prepared, as they had been every night since the works were constructed.

While the armistice lasted, the Russians were seen to be working with the greatest energy in repairing some of the mischief done to the Malakhoff Tower batteries. Some were bringing sandbags, others were ramming them down. It was subsequently found that they had taken advantage of this brief cessation of hostilities to make also a small howitzer battery on the right of the Malakhoff Tower, and in rear of the other works, in such a position as to cross in its line of fire the right of the Quarry. This has since caused us a good deal of injury on several occasions, as the enemy knew the precise range, and no preparation had been made to guard against the fire from this point.

At first all officers were admitted into the Mamelon Redoubt, but long before the armistice had ceased our allies found it necessary to check the number of visitors. It was, indeed, a most remarkable work. The Russian engineers had not followed any set rules, but adapted it to the peculiar exigencies of its position. Every possible contrivance had been laid hold of to protect the artillerymen from the cross fire from the French and English batteries. Traverses of immense thickness had been made between every gun. There was a depth of four feet from the level of the platforms to the ground within the work, so that no one was exposed to fire through the embrasures but the men actually working the gun. Near the mouths of each gun several rolls of rope were wound round one above the other, until a close dense ring of considerable thickness was formed; this was deep enough to protect the gunner from a rifle ball while pointing the gun, and perhaps might be useful in deadening the concussion when the gun was itself struck by a shell or other missile. In rear of each gun, a passage being left to walk along, was also a splinter-proof traverse, and along the opposite sides of this passage—that is, in the sides of the earth on which the platforms reared—were a series of cave-like holes, into which one or three men could retreat. There was a middle passage along the centre of the redoubt, between the traverses, and also in rear of the several embrasures. On entering the work a stranger found himself in a sort of mesa; there were little lanes and turnings in every direction. A shell falling into any part of the work could scarcely hurt more than the troops in the particular enclosure into which it fell, and they, if there were time, would have the opportunity of running behind a traverse, or getting into some of the holes in the earth. A spacious entrance had been taken advantage of for the formation of the principal magazine; the entrance to this depository was by descent of a small flight of steps outside, and on the Malakhoff aspect of the redoubt. A deep ditch flanked the work on each side, except that in which was the entrance, and this ditch, and the compartments of the work between the traverses, were covered with the bodies of those who had fallen in the contest for its possession. Russians, Zouaves, Algerines, and French soldiers of the line, were all lying together. The traverses and parapets were battered about in all directions, and some of the guns had been overturned, and were half buried in the displaced earth. It was a scene, indeed, of ruin and devastation.

An incident, which at the time produced a very singular effect, occurred during the armistice, about an hour after its commencement. While officers and men of the different nations were mixed together in the neutral space between the Mamelon and Malakhoff hills, some exchanging cards, cigars, or entering into other civilities, and while the operation of conveying and burying the dead was still going on, a panic suddenly rose that the fire was being opened. It was impossible to discover whence the idea sprung, but it spread like wildfire, and in an instant all festivities was at an end, an abrupt parting took place, and French and English were hurrying toward the Mamelon in one direction, and Russians the latter way toward the Malakhoff works. As the distance from the camp was very considerable, and the time of duration of the armistice uncertain, many of the English and French did not return. The fire was still going on on the left, and it was supposed that the smoke rising from a small explosion in the direction of the Gouzhili attack, had caused the sudden alarm.

Among the bodies brought in on this occasion was that of Lieutenant Edward Henry Webb, of the 20th Regiment, who fell in the attack on the Quarry. He was pierced by seven or eight wounds in various parts of the body, and, as when he fell he was seen to have been disabled by a musket ball in the leg only, some of these must have been inflicted after he was on the ground. He was found lying some way in advance, and to the right of the Quarry. He was a remarkably brave young officer, and had particularly distinguished himself in the early part of the siege operations by his conduct while in command of sharpshooters. The circumstance that out of the small storming party sent against the Quarry so large a proportion of those who fell should have been officers, cannot fail to attract attention. The account given by different persons engaged in the affair of the circumstances of the fight for the Quarry, vary greatly, and the re seems to have been such a commingling of the parties intended for the attack, and those for the support and the reserve, and all within so limited a space, that it is not likely the history will ever become very clear.

There is a story told, on good authority, connected with the sudden temporary retreat of the French from the Mamelon Redoubt, after they had first seized it, which serves to explain the confusion. A Russian officer, who had been wounded, was kept in the redoubt as a prisoner. He had been treated kindly by some of the French officers; they had given to him some water, and wine, and had afterwards given him a cigarette. The Russian had scarcely got this night, when turning round a little way, he set fire to some gunpowder and charged shells, which were lying in a small heap near at hand. An explosion took place, not in itself of much importance, but it raised an alarm that the redoubt was mined, and that the mines were about to be discharged. An instant escape was made. Just then, the greater part of the troops, who had advanced up to the flank of the Malakhoff, came retiring back; and this event added to the confusion, out of which the enemy did not omit to extract a temporary advantage.

The armistice was concluded about 5 o'clock, and a heavy fire was again commenced against the Russian works.

Three line of battle ships have taken up a position near to the entrance of the South Harbour. They appear to be so placed that their guns would act upon the Malakhoff hill. The masts of a third ship are partly seen behind Fort Paul. Two of the ships visible are two-deckers, one is a three-decker. Two men-of-war steamers are near them.

Intelligence has reached the camp that Taganrog and Rostov, near the mouth of the river Don, have been taken by our fleet, and that a vast quantity of stores has been seized and destroyed. These captures are most important; from the former place the enemy has obtained iron for making guns, and the materials for making gunpowder. Vast quantities of corn and other provisions, conveyed from the interior by the rivers Volga and Don, have also been conveyed from this port.

A very sharp fusillade occurred in the direction of the Mamelon Vert at 9 p.m., and shortly afterwards the second French Division, who had only been relieved in the morning, moved down to the Karabelnaia ravine as a reserve force. The fire of musketry did not last long, but was very concentrated and vigorous. A Russian force, it is said, advanced towards the Mamelon Redoubt, but the fire of the French covering party made such an impression that the Russians quickly retired.

The enemy has been throwing shells into the Mamelon from some steamers behind the Malakhoff Tower, and also from the batteries on the west side of Careening Bay, and the French have had a large number of casualties.

June 10.—A heavy shelling fire was kept up all night from both our attacks against the Redan and Malakhoff batteries. There was scarcely any firing on the left. The enemy scarcely replied. The Cossack batteries on the north side of the roadstead fired frequently against the redoubts now occupied by the French on Mount Sapoune.

Captain Walker, of the 3rd Buffs, was wounded in the arm last night, but not seriously. This officer was lately promoted from the 90th Regiment, of which he was adjutant, for gallant conduct before the enemy.

It is confidently rumoured in camp that the assault

against the Malakhoff and Redan is to take place today. All the batteries in front of the ruin of the Round Tower, now a mere heap of stones, are silenced, as is also the Redan, and it cannot be hoped to effect much greater destruction against them by artillery, so that the rumour seems probable. All the troops are eager for the undertaking. The Russians have constructed a small howitzer battery behind, and to our left of the Round Tower, the shells from which are constantly striking the parapet of the approach to the Quarry, and the right of the Quarry itself; and our men holding this work are much harassed. The troops in the Mamelon Redoubt are also suffering severely from the fire of the enemy.

Small steamers left the Admiralty harbour several times in the course of to-day, and went over to the north side. They were crowded with men on the deck, and seemed also to be carrying a quantity of stores or baggage. Perhaps this may have been wounded troops. The end of the building, usually marked in plans of the town as the Hospital, is riddled with shot, and there are numerous holes in the face of the long white building called the Barrack; but the principal and more prominent structures appear as yet undisturbed.

In the course of last night two of the line of battle ships were towed close into the mouth of the Admiralty harbour, with a view apparently of bringing a fire to bear upon some part of the ground we occupy. They were compelled to shift their position, by some discharges of shell from the Lancaster gun in the right attack, and are now moored in a somewhat new line, a considerable distance off in the roadstead, but broadside on to the Admiralty suburb. The three-decker lies between the two frigates. A large ship still continues under Fort Paul. At 5 p.m. this vessel was compelled to haul a short distance round to the eastward, as some of the shell went close to its stern, but it remained under protection of the building of the fort. Two men-of-war steamers remain out in the roadstead, near the ships. These vessels seem to have taken up this position to fire, if necessary, upon the Malakhoff hill.

Rags of shaff are being taken down to the batteries and advanced works. It is supposed that they are intended to fill up the ditches before the Redan and Kornilloff bastion of the Malakhoff, and the idea that the assault is to take place is strengthened. The French also have a report that they are going to attack the Malakhoff immediately.

7 p.m.—To the surprise of every one our fire is considerably slackening. Late in the afternoon an order was sent down for the fire in the advanced batteries to be stopped, and for the fire in Chapman's and Gordon's batteries to be confined to a certain limited number of rounds each hour. Every kind of rumour is afloat proceeding to account for the change. The assault is given up for the present, according to some persons, because the French general did not wish it to be undertaken until a large battery had been completed in the Mamelon Redoubt. According to many others, General Pelissier was most eager to have followed up the advantages already gained by an immediate attack on the Redan and Malakhoff, but, in the estimation of the English Commander-in-Chief, so many officers and men had fallen in the assault on the Quarry works as to prevent a further undertaking of that nature being advisable, and it was therefore postponed. A deficiency of gunpowder is also spoken of in our batteries, as the cause of slackening fire, as so hot a fire could not be maintained long without the supply being altogether exhausted. No doubt the enemy will take immediate advantage of the opportunity to re-strengthen the works which have been so much damaged. A general despondency and feeling of irritation have followed this change in the condition of affairs: every one sees the prospect of the siege being indefinitely prolonged.

June 11.—The fire gradually slackened last evening, and towards night the fire on both sides ceased altogether. Occasional shots were fired in the night, being chiefly from the Cossack batteries at Inkerman and on the north side of the roadstead, to interrupt the works of the French in the batteries they lately seized on Mount Sapoune. During the night scarcely a shell was fired from either of our attacks.

The surprise at the cessation of fire still continues. It is even surmised that instructions on the subject have been received from the ministry at home, and that the negotiations for peace are likely to terminate favourably, or that perhaps the Russian general, finding himself in difficulties, is coming to terms. All kinds of conjectures are on the tapis to try and explain so extraordinary a change. No doubt the Russian troops are equally astonished with ourselves. But as far as can be seen there is no disposition on the part of the enemy to yield, for he is evidently making preparations to dispute our further progress as strongly as possible. The troops holding the quarry are still continuing to suffer from the enemy's fire; and should the same rate of loss continue, the returns of killed and wounded will show an accumulation of loss greater than might have been expected from an assault. The commanders may be aware, however, of difficulties and dangers in the undertaking not obvious to ordinary spectators. A flag of truce was hoisted yesterday from Fort Constantine for the purpose of holding some communication with our fleet; the nature of the communication has not transpired.

There has been scarcely any casualties in the batteries to-day. Assistant-Surgeon Irwin, Royal Navy, received a severe contusion in the Sailors' Battery, right attack, from a piece of shell. There were no casualties among the officers or men in the left attack.

Some musketry and a few heavy guns were heard in the direction of the plain at an early hour this morning. It is understood that some Cossacks showed themselves near Tchorgoun, and that a slight skirmishing occurred between them and some of our outposts.

June 12.—Everything is at present very quiet in the batteries. A few shells were discharged from time to time during the night against the working parties in the direction of the Redan and Malakhoff hills. There was also rather more fire on the left, where it has been unusually slack during the past week.

The weather has been cool, being tempered by a wind from the north. This day however the wind has shifted more to the eastward, and the sun is exerting great power. The health of the troops engaged in the siege continues good; cases of cholera are very rare, and of a mild character. In the neighbourhood of Balaklava this disease prevails to a greater extent, and some of the troops have changed the positions of their encampment in consequence.

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, June 16.

Nearest of especial interest has occurred to mark the last few days in the siege operations. On both sides the comparative cessation of fire has been taken advantage of for the purpose of forwarding the preparations for the ensuing struggle. The Allies have been pushing forward their works, and employing the positions lately gained for the establishment of batteries, which will have a nearer and more direct fire upon the points next to be assailed. The Russians having abandoned all hope of regaining those positions, have been devoting their energies to impede our progress, and to repair and strengthen the principal points which remain in their possession.

On our right attack, a new battery has been constructed, under a very galling fire, in advance of the Quarry earthwork. It is now ready to open, and not many hours will elapse in all probability before the enemy is acquainted with its exact nature. It is armed both with mortars and long guns. From the battery a sap has been carried up within a short distance of the Redan itself. The enemy, who is well acquainted with the proceedings of our working parties, has brought out field pieces at night on our side of the Redan, and discharged a heavy kind of grapeshot and fragments of shells against them. It has required coolness and courage to proceed with the work, but nevertheless it has progressed most favourably.

In the Mamelon redoubt the French have constructed a formidable battery, which will be directed against the works round the Malakhoff Tower. The enemy has spared no effort to impede the progress of this undertaking. Both by day and night, from the batteries in the west of Careening Bay, from the ships, and also from some mortar batteries behind the Malakhoff, shells have been thrown into and about the Mamelon. It is feared that the French have suffered considerably from this constant fire, but it has not materially interfered with the advance of the works. The allies have also carried a parallel forward in front of the Mamelon, across the Malakhoff hill itself, and out of this, nearly at right angles, have carried a direct sap some distance up the hill toward the Kornilof bastion. They took advantage of a covered approach which had been previously employed by the Russians as a way of communication between the Malakhoff and Mamelon works, and by widening the ditch, doubling the parapet, and making proper traverses, converted it into the sap before mentioned.

Still further on the right, on the east side of Careening Bay ravine, the French have completely changed the aspect of the redoubts taken from the

Russians. The redoubt nearest to the Mamelon—the Selinghinsk redoubt—from which a covered approach led as a means of communication with the works on the west side of the ravine, has been doubled in size, and fitted with an armament of a formidable character.

The nature of the enemy's new works has not been determined with precision. Working parties have been heard at night within the Redan, and during the day-time the transport of gabions to it has been observed. The batteries around the Malakhoff have been repaired, and in front of them a number of rifle pits constructed. From these the Russian sharpshooters direct a thick fire, not only against the French in their advanced parallel, but also against our new parallel commencing with the quarry. The fire from our batteries against the enemy's works has continued very slack. Occasionally a broadside has been poured into the Redan or Malakhoff, with a view of using to greater purpose the limited number of rounds permitted to be fired, and a few shells have been thrown in the same directions. It is confidently asserted that whatever may be the nature of the operations of the enemy, and to whatever extent they may be carried, so overpowering and concentrated will be our fire when the new batteries opens, that the Malakhoff must be silenced after eight or ten hours' bombardment. The assault will no doubt be mainly directed against this point, for once in the possession of the Allies, the Redan and other works on either flank must shortly follow. It was fully expected that the fire would have opened yesterday afternoon. There are many reasons why the bombardment will be resumed at the earliest opportunity.

The force which left under Sir George Brown in the expedition against Kertch has now returned, with the exception of the 71st Highlanders. This regiment remains for the present, and will assist in protecting the position in conjunction with a body of French and Ottoman troops. The 72nd and 71st Regiments have already come to the front, to assist in the labours of the siege. The brigade of Guards is also expected to leave Balaklava to-day for the same purpose.

Yesterday afternoon a considerable force of the enemy was observed to leave the north camp, and to march along the heights towards the great roadstead. They were afterwards seen to cross to Sebastopol. A steamer brought over a portion of these troops, and at the same time had a barge crowded with soldiers secured to each side. This vessel, after disembarking the troops at the landing place near Cape Nicholas, returned to the north side, and subsequently again conveyed a similar number across. Between thirty and forty large sowing boats also crossed with troops. No soldiers were observed to leave the south side, so that there was no reason for supposing this merely to be a relief of the troops in garrison, and they were considered to be reinforcements in anticipation of an expected attack. It was calculated that five or six thousand had come across up to the time when the darkness prevented further observation of the enemy's movements. Just before midnight a very sharp musketry fire occurred near the Mamelon redoubt. It lasted about ten minutes, and was accompanied by a vigorous discharge from all the batteries. The alarm was sounded in the French camp, and strong reinforcements moved down to the support. The particulars of the affair are not yet known, but it was probably a sortie made by the fresh troops against the advanced works of the French in front of the Mamelon Vert.

An enormous number of shells, carried in country waggons, have been brought from an inland direction, and stored in convenient positions on the north shore. Two sowings, apparently of grain, have also been seen to move along to the site of the principal magazine depots below the Star Fort. It is commonly rumoured in camp that the Russian army near Simpheropol has quitted that position and moved towards Perekop, leaving their stores of provisions to be available for the use of the army defending Sebastopol. I have not heard on what authority the assertion rests. Desertions from the enemy have been rather numerous during the week, and, according to the reports of those men, the rations of the soldiers had been severely curtailed. News had reached the Russian troops that Kertch had fallen, but the account was contradicted by the Russian officers. One deserter said, also, that all the guns had been taken out of the ships, and there seems some probability of this being true, notwithstanding the threatening attitude those vessels have assumed; for guns have been observed to be removed out of some of the forts. Two guns only remain out of the six which were mounted on the roof of Fort Paul; the other four have been taken away lately. The amount of sickness is described as being very great. The tents supposed to be appropriated to hospital purposes on the north side have been in many parts separated from each other, and made to occupy a greater space, as if some infectious disease were prevailing among them.

The men-of-war ships remain in the position mentioned in my last letter. They are drawn up nearly in line, as if to sweep with their guns the Malakhoff hill, in case it should fall into our hands, and at present are out of range of our guns.

There have been two, if not more, houses in the town set on fire, apparently by the carcasses thrown from the front of the Greenhill attack. In each instance the fire seemed to be confined to the house in which it commenced, but the houses were of a larger size than have hitherto been destroyed.

Some of our men have suffered from the explosion of the small mines which the Russians have buried in various directions. On the night of the 11th instant one of these exploded as a party were moving near the Quarry work. One man of the 55th Regiment was blown to pieces, and four or five others of the same regiment were also wounded. A stretcher carried by one of the men was thrown a long distance off. A stamp of the foot on the part of the tube above ground suffices to cause the explosion. Many of them have been discovered and dug up. Some seconds elapse before the explosion takes places, even after the tube has been trodden upon, and its contents set free, to pass to the chamber containing the combustibles. To this circumstance General Airey owed his preservation on the day of the last armistice. His horse trod on one of these mines, but being in a canter at the time was sufficiently advanced for the general to escape unhurt. The tail of the horse was singed. In the instance also mentioned above, when some men of the 55th Regiment were injured, the soldier who happened to tread on the tube was in front when the box exploded, and fortunately was uninjured.

Lieutenant-General Brown returned to camp last evening, but is not yet in orders to resume command of the Light Division.

The following general order was published on the 14th instant, in reference to the late successes on the Circassian coast and in the Sea of Azoff.

Head-quarters before Sebastopol, June 14, 1855.

In continuation of former orders, the Commander of the Forces has the great satisfaction to announce to the troops the further successes of the expedition to Kertch.

The naval operations against Taganrog, Mariouopol, and Gheisk, which took place on the 5th, 6th, and 7th instant, have been perfectly successful.

The public buildings and numerous magazines of provisions have been burned, thereby causing immense loss of supplies to the enemy.

The fortress of Arabat was abandoned and destroyed by the enemy on the 8th instant.

Thirty thousand sacks of flour were destroyed in the neighbourhood of Arabat on the 9th instant.

The expedition is now returning.

By order,
(Signed) J. Storrow, Chief of the Staff.

The weather has continued dry. The temperature during the day time has been very high. Cases of cholera are still occurring. Major Mills, of the 7th Fusiliers, who was wounded in the attack on the Quarry, has been seized by the disease, but his symptoms are reported to be of a favourable character. Lieutenant Alfred Hall, of the 42nd Highlanders, has sunk under it, but he had been much weakened by a previous attack of fever.

June 16.

The attack last night appears to have been of a very determined character. The Russians advanced against the French works in front of the Mamelon from both sides of the Malakhoff. Their skirmishers were however, notwithstanding the darkness, observed, and the enemy found our allies fully prepared. They were compelled to retire after about ten minutes' fighting, and must have suffered immense loss. Not only the line of musketry fire from the French advanced parallel, but also some field pieces which had been brought forward and were kept ready loaded with canister and grape, poured a deadly fire into their ranks. The severity of their loss was best shown by the fact that they fell back after their first failure, and did not repeat the attempt during the night. The attack was made just at midnight. The French casualties were very few. Both the English batteries on the right attack, and the French works on the other side of the Careening Bay ravine, opened against the enemy as they pushed forward to the attack, and kept up a fire against them as they were retiring.

There is little doubt that this attack was made by the fresh troops who had been observed to pass from the north side during the previous afternoon and evening. The encounter must have tended to dispirit them considerably.

A rumour is going about that the new works are to open this afternoon at 2 o'clock against the Malakhoff, but similar reports have prevailed the last two days, without any truth in them, as the event has proved.

COMMISSARIAT REFORM IN THE CRIMEA.

Extract of a letter from an officer of the Light Division, dated Camp above Sebastopol, May 25:

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, May 25.

"You must still expect to read in the scattered correspondence from the Crimea very different reports on the subject of supplies to the men, their conditions, duties, and other matters. The character of the report will usually be dependent on the writer's experience in the particular division from which he writes. I saw last mail that in a letter written by 'Our Special Correspondent' to the *Times*, porter, and even wine, was being served out to the troops going to the trenches. This was no doubt true as regarded the Fourth Division, for he lives in the encampment of that division, but that is not true as regards other divisions. Yesterday being the Queen's birthday, and in honour of it, a double allowance of porter was ordered to be given out to every soldier in the army. In the Light Division this order was not complied with, and it was with difficulty that the commissariat found means of supplying a single ration of porter. Rum was given instead of the other half of the porter. Up to yesterday (May 24), from the first landing of the regiments of the Light Division in Turkey a year ago, the whole quantity of porter issued to each man was only three pints, and these were given in Bulgaria. On the 7th of May, the following general order was issued, 'There being a quantity of porter yet remaining in the commissariat stores, it will be issued to the troops in lieu of the ration of rum, in the proportion of two quarts to three men.' This has never been complied with in the Light Division; it may have been given in other divisions. At any rate, as inquiry is the order of the day among other subjects, this may be inquired into; for, as there is no doubt that a vast quantity of porter has been sent for the use of the troops from England, it must have been used by somebody, and it may be worth while knowing by whom. No statement can be more easily tested than the one I just now made, that from the first landing of the Light Division up to yesterday, the 24th of May, only three pints per man had been issued by the commissariat to the regiments composing it. Every one division, or even one brigade, or one regiment, finds itself differently treated from another in respect to public issues, it is apt to breed discontent unless there is an evident cause for the difference. I do not pretend to say whether the commissariat officers at the head of each division by exhibiting greater or less degrees of zeal and energy produce these varying results, or whether they arise from fault, favouritism, or neglect—I only know they exist. The beef served out in front up to the present time has been gristly, hard, of a bad colour and flavour, and is generally mouldy on the outside, sometimes also inside. The last condition is said to be the result of its having undergone a sea voyage. But I believe white bread is being baked on board a ship or ships employed for the purpose, which some of our troops must receive, and there is certainly no reason why, since the large army of the French is supplied with light, wholesome, white bread, the smaller British force should not receive bread of a like kind. I doubt very much whether it would not be found, if searched into, that our dark bread costs as much as the French white bread. I do not mention these things to you in a spirit of grumbling—but rather as instances of mismanagement which need not exist, and which will only cost a little more pains, but no more money, to remove. No army can be more liberally supplied than the English army is by its country."

REGIMENTAL SURGEONS.

Extract from the letter of a Regimental Surgeon, dated Crimea, May 31, 1855:

"My pay, notwithstanding my length of service—12½ years—and my campaigning in all climates, and I may add my responsibility as a regimental surgeon, is only 13*l.* a day. I see around me civilians, some out 7 for practice, who are receiving 2*l.* 2*s.* a day, with the promise of a year's salary when they have in a year or so."

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

KARAMA, June 1.

Matters on either front against Sebastopol and against the Tchernaya remain much as they were. It is now a week since the movement in advance was made from the Balaklava lines, and ever since that day the allied troops have been arranging and completing their camps in the new position; fresh corps and detachments have been drawn up, but no attempt has been made against the Russian lines opposed to us. There is no saying how delicious the new ground we have conquered is—how luxuriant its vegetation—how bright its flowers—how pure and perfume-laden the air; and even if the advance is not to be followed up for the present, we have gained enough by quartering a large part of the army on healthy soil, and procuring for the cattle a stock of fresh grass, which is likely to last them at least a month. Whether or not an advance will be made is a matter of doubt. The fact is, that the Sardinian, French, and Turkish troops are entrenching their encampments along the whole line from Karama to Inkermann. The Tchernaya and its banks, and the village of Tchorgoun, are for the present debatable ground, under the fire of either of the two armies, and therefore less free to the adventurous spirit of the marauding parties of Zouaves and French light infantry, who, when off duty, either descend to fetch water or bathe, or steal into Tchorgoun to ransack the place for hidden treasures, of which however to this day none have been found.

NEGLECTED MERIT.

Extract from a Private Letter.

CRIMEA, June 5.

It is strange that the two regimental officers upon whom had devolved the greatest amount of responsibility, who must have suffered the most anxiety, and generally exercised the most personal exertion during the campaign, should have remained hitherto unrewarded—I mean the Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding and the surgeon. Take, for example, Colonel Egerton, and Surgeon Macartney, of the 77th Regiment, who died lately, one from wounds received in action, the other from disease contracted in attending wounded in hospital. Colonel Egerton had served upwards of a quarter of a century; had purchased and paid handsomely for all his steps of promotion; had, according to universal testimony, from the Commander-in-Chief down to the drummer-boy of the regiment, toiled hard for the good of the men entrusted to his keeping, and yet when he died had not received one shadow of a reward. He had seen captains in the staff unnumbered—men leading a life of comparative ease—converted into field officers, majors converted into lieutenant-colonels, and general officers of one grade promoted to a grade still higher, but he remained as he was. In no instance had he himself or his regiment missed an opportunity of doing distinguished service. It is true his Crimean medal, with the Alma and Inkermann clasp, will be transmitted to his old father; but it must not be forgotten that with Colonel Egerton's death was lost to his family all the property he had invested in gaining the position which he had held and fulfilled so nobly. What can the medal be to his family be but a memento of a sad, irreparable loss, and of ill-requited services? Again, look at the case of Dr. Macartney. As regimental surgeon he had served with his regiment throughout the conflict with pestilence and disease in Bulgaria; he had struggled against the difficulties arising from insufficient supplies of medicines, medical comforts, and all that was necessary for the proper treatment of the sick; he had braved all the dangers of the campaign; had worked hard, in concert with Colonel Egerton, in meeting and counteracting the severe trials of the winter before Sebastopol; and at last, injured in constitution by work and exposure, he had succumbed to an accident incidental to his professional duties. And what reward did he get? What did he ever receive, but a share of that odium which has been entailed on the medical officers at large by mismanagement and administrative neglect, from which he himself suffered, but had no means of resisting, much less of preventing? What can the medal carry to his family but recollections of neglect and wrong? It can hardly have been intended by our country that the distribution of its favours should have been so partial as they have hitherto been, and as the examples of Colonel Egerton and Dr. Macartney strikingly illustrate.

Church constructed out of huge Materials. June 1855. Staff-Appointments.

THE SAPPERS' CHURCH IN THE CRIMEA.

One among the many interesting objects in the British Camp before Sebastopol is the Sappers' Church, Right Attack, where the Rev. Mr. Taylor officiates. Its structure affords an excellent example of the adaptation of local circumstances to a particular object. It is built wholly of siege apparatus; but these are neither injured nor rendered unfit for their ultimate purpose; on the contrary, the materials are so arranged that they are only in store, as it were, ready for use as soon as required. The articles employed in the construction have been scaling ladders, gabions, fascines, timber ready cut and shaped for gun-platforms, a few planks, and some pieces of rope. Two scaling ladders locked into each other at the top, so as to give and derive mutual support, form at certain intervals the columns which separate the aisles from the body of the church, and bear the roof. The framework of the outer wall is made by long upright timbers, which lean against the summits of each set of ladders respectively, and are secured by cords. Across these a few joist beams are lashed, and the outer wall of gabions, though thicker at the base than above, in a great degree rests against them horizontal supports. To form the wall, the gabions are placed end to end, one above the other, until they reach the height of the roof. Nothing can be more agreeable during the heat of the day than the sensation produced by the air entering through this grass-work of twigs; it passes freely, but is so sprinkled, as it were, in its passage, its force is so broken, that, however strong without, it fails to cause any unpleasant disturbance within. The sun's light is broken with an equally pleasing effect, for the rays which find their way in are so reflected and distributed that all glare and dazzle are prevented. The roof is made by the platform timbers laid between the tops of the ladders on each side, and at right angles to those the fascines are laid in regular rows, until a complete covering is formed. The roof is light, admits, of course, of free ventilation, and gives a perfect protection against the direct rays of the sun. At the end opposite the entrance into this truly military church a semicircular recess is given to the gabion wall, and in the recess thus formed several sacks stuffed with straw are arranged, to form a reading desk and kneeling cushion for the preacher. Planks are laid on each side, from ladder to ladder, resting at a convenient height on the lower rails, and these benches are appropriated for the use of the weak and convalescents from the hospital; the other soldiers stand during the service.

When the Union Jack has been thrown over the primitive reading desk before mentioned, and the clergyman is in his usual robes, and the Engineers and Sappers are filling the space in their military costume, all seems so appropriate and in such harmony, that should a visitor be among the number of the congregation he soon ceases to feel the peculiarity of the place, and forgets, while engaged in the service, that he is not in one of the ordinary churches, with its stone walls and steepled roof, in his own mother country. Now and then the attention of the listener to the "mission of peace and goodwill among men" may be diverted for a moment by the heavy thunder of a gun, or the bursting of a shell: for the Sappers' church is on one side of the ravine leading to Careening Bay, and since the Russian reinforce and the French works have been established on the heights above such sounds have become frequent enough on all days and at all hours of the week. But the Sappers themselves know that their yard is out of range, though only just out of it, and habit in this, as in other matters, produces its usual effect. The gun is discharged, the shot whizzes through the air, and the shell explodes; but the sounds, if heard, are not heeded, for the attention is otherwise occupied.

EXTRACT FROM AN OFFICER'S LETTER, DATED CRIMEA, JUNE 15, 1855.

A good deal of discontent is expressed, not only at the way men get staff appointments, but also at the way in which they keep them. "Once on the staff, always on the staff" has passed into an adage. If a general goes away, or is removed by death or any other cause, his A.D.C. must have some other berth found, no matter in what department, quartermaster-general's or adjutant-general's. The interest which procured the former appointment is still at work. Recollect these officers draw their regimental pay just the same as if doing regimental duty, escape fish in the trenches, &c., and you have the real key to the proceeding, whatever the alleged motive may be. Will anybody pretend to say that Captain the Hon. A. Cathcart and Captain the Hon. G. Elliot, aides-de-camp to Sir George Cathcart, were, on that general's lamented decease, appointed to the quarter-master-general's department from any transcendent abilities or peculiar fitness for their new situations? The 49th Regiment has lately come to the Crimea. Captain Robert Blakeney of that regiment has passed nearly all his military life in the comfortable establishment of his uncle, Sir Edward Blakeney, on his staff. A short time elapses after his arrival with the regiment in the Crimea, and a staff situation is found again for this officer, and because no situation is actually vacant one is made for the occasion, and he is appointed extra aide-de-camp (see General Orders of June 12, 1855). If General Pennefather required another, in addition to the three aides-de-camp regularly on his staff, surely one would have imagined that some officer would be selected who had been serving in the field all the winter, and who had become thoroughly acquainted with the terrain and all the circumstances of our position by past experience. ByGeneral Orders of the 10th of June, Capt. the Hon. H. Clifford was appointed on the general staff, to act either in the Quartermaster-General's or Adjutant-General's departments as his services might be required. He was previously aide-de-camp to Major-General Buller, who left a few days prior to this date, at the recommendation of a medical board, for England. Captain Clifford, who is on the strength of the Rifle Brigade, may or may not be well fitted for his new appointment; it is the principle on which the appointments are made that gives umbrage.

It has often struck me as very singular that no notice has ever been taken of the peculiarly striking fact that in the army men are allowed to draw pay for years for doing duties which it is impossible that they can do. Instances are not wanting in which officers remaining on the strength of certain regiments have passed their whole lives, with the exception of a few months for tuition at joining, without having done a day's regimental duty. They have passed from one appointment on the staff to another. Yet they have always drawn their regimental in addition to their staff pay. Would it not be more simple and more honest, more just to those who are suffering all the exposure and risk of regimental service, to pay those who are on the staff whatever sum is equivalent to their duties on the staff, and to pay those who really do the regimental work whatever sum is equivalent to their services? Or, under present circumstances, to be quite fair, the pay of the officer who chooses to leave his regiment to go on staff employ should be left behind, and divided among those upon whom he throws the onus of performing his share in the general labours. No one ever mixes a hour of duty in the trenches without risk of life or limb; if the frequency of that tour of duty is increased by the absence of some of the men who would have to take their turn were they present with the regiment, and their absence be for personal advantage and comfort, surely the absentees should make some compensation to their more hardly worked comrades. But under any circumstances, it is nothing less than a "sham" to see a list of names as captains, or whatever else may be the rank, on the strength of a regiment, when they have nothing whatever to do with the regiment in question beyond drawing pay and getting promotion in it.

Siege-journal. June 1855. Contin'd.

THE ASSAULT ON THE REDAN AND THE MALAKHOFF BATTERIES.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, June 20.

The following is a diary of events of the last three days. It will be seen the attack against the Redan and Malakhoff was not so successful as had been anticipated, but the temporary failure will no doubt within a very brief period be repaired by events of a more favourable character. They must shortly be gained possession of, by a repetition of assault, or by other operations.

June 16.—Captain John Vaughan, of the 30th Regiment, while posting some advanced sentries in front of the left attack last night, received a mortal wound through the body from a rifle ball. He had under his command at the time of this fatal occurrence a small body of nine or ten double sentries, and though the enemy was lying in wait for their approach, and did not fire until they were well in advance, yet, strange to say, no one was hit but Captain Vaughan himself. The Russians fired a volley. Although it is generally understood in civilised warfare that sentries are not objects of particular attack, their fate not having any influence on the general result aimed at, the enemy has this excuse for breaking through the rule, that our sharpshooters posted in the advanced trenches have not unfrequently fired upon individuals passing in the streets of Sebastopol, and some, indeed, who, judging from their appearance, have not been even military men. Captain Vaughan was one of the most active officers in his regiment, and a general favourite. This is the first casualty the corps has met with among its officers, and it is, therefore, the more acutely felt by all its members.

Lieut.-General Sir George Brown, who has resumed the command of the Light Division, visited the camps of the several regiments composing it to-day. He appeared to be in excellent health. Major-General Codrington returns to the command of his brigade. These two generals had heightened interviews. Rumours are afloat that the bombardment will be renewed to-morrow, and that, after a few hours' fire, the Light Division and French troops confined will make an attack against the Malakhoff.

There has been a tolerably active fire kept up all day from various parts of the lines. The Russians on the right have chiefly directed their efforts against the Mamelon Vert, scarcely a shot has been thrown at the new works near the Quarry. There has been some heavy fire on the extreme left, near the sea, and Fort Constantine has thrown shells at intervals over to the new French works by the Quarantine. The day has been very hot, and is followed by a clear evening. Several changes in the disposition of troops have occurred. The First Division, Guards and Highlanders, have moved from Balaklava, and encamped about a mile and a half from the front before Sebastopol. The Fourth French Division, belonging to General Bosquet's corps d'armée, have moved down to the plain, below the Woronzoff road, to join, it is stated, in an expedition in the direction of Mackenzie's farm, against the Russian army of the North. A considerable proportion of the French troops lately returned from Kertch have also joined the army in the plain. The Sardinians and Ottoman troops have extended their position in a direction towards the valley and village of Baidar.

Many of the cannon shot thrown by the Russians during the last few days have been recently cast. The surface is quite free from rust, and bears marks of being finished by employment of filing. It is reported that a foundry has been established on the north side of Sebastopol, and that the shot thrown by us into the town and fortifications are by its means turned to account against us. The calibre of the Russian guns is greater as compared with the calibre of our guns of relative size, so that we are unable to use the Russian shot, and they could use ours, only with considerable loss in power and accuracy on account of the windage. It is not improbable therefore that they have resorted to the practice of melting down and recasting the iron obtained from our shot, and thus saved themselves the delay and difficulty of transporting others through the Crimea.

About 7 p.m. several of the men-of-war steamers were observed to be getting up steam. One steamer went very close in towards the shore and mouth of the harbour at half-past 8 o'clock; and Fort Constantine, and several forts beyond, were seen to open fire against her. Fort Constantine threw shells from some mortars mounted on the roof; round shot were sent from the works beyond. The steamer did not make any reply. Her object seemed to be simply one of observation.

June 17.—The bombardment opened at break of day. A rocket from one of the French batteries on the right of Careening Bay was the signal, and was followed immediately by a heavy fire, which began at the right, and so on extended along the lines as far as the left of the Greenhill attack. The French batteries beyond did not open a general fire. A few shells had been discharged from time to time previously along the whole line, and a little after midnight there was an active discharge of rockets from a small battery on the extreme left of our position, near the camp of the 9th Regiment, in advance of the Third Division. Two fires were noticed to spring up in the town, but they had been speedily extinguished. The fire which now opened was of tremendous power, and was carried on with the utmost energy; everyone seemed to agree that if cannon could demolish the Russian fortifications they were now doomed to destruction. The Selinghinsk Redoubt—the "Redoubte Flanche" as the French have called it, from its white parapets—had been fully armed, as well as the Mamelon, and both were now pouring a continuous fire into the batteries which spring as if above the shore on the west of Careening Bay and into the Malakhoff Tower works. The new battery made by our engineers above the Quarry, containing four mortars and three long 32-pounders, was throwing a raking fire into a battery, known as the Mud Battery, on the proper right (our left) of the Korniloff Bastion and the ruin of the Malakhoff Tower. The Russian batteries at first replied with energy, especially the batteries to the west of Careening Bay, and a mortar battery to the proper left of the Malakhoff ruin. The batteries first-mentioned are sometimes named by us the Marine Batteries, being near the marine suburb, and by the French as La Batterie de la Pointe, because it encloses the west point of Careening Bay. The Garden Batteries on the left of the south harbour were also very active against us, and surprise was expressed that arrangements had not been made with the French works on the left for keeping these in check. The wind blew from a north-westerly direction, and carried the smoke from the right along the batteries and across the ravine, in which it lodged like a thick mist towards the left. So dense was the cloud of smoke that the Greenhill attack was not visible to a spectator taking his position on the right, excepting at rare intervals, when either a temporary slackening of the fire, or a freshening of the breeze, for a few minutes cleared the obstruction away. Now and then this dense veil completely hid the whole line of batteries; and the darting flames and thick curling volumes of white smoke alone pointed out the position of some of the guns.

7 A.M.—The fire has continued to rage furiously. The Redan is nearly silent; one gun opens from it occasionally. Four guns are still open in the works on the Malakhoff hill, two in the Korniloff Bastion before the ruin of the tower, and two in the battery on the right (our left) of it. The French have appeared to suffer severely in the redoubt on the Mamelon Vert; shells from the shipping, from the Marine batteries, and from some work which appears to be behind the Malakhoff Tower, have been constantly falling in and about the work. The battery in front of the Mamelon has, however, continued very active against the works in front of the Round Tower. The large line of battle ships remain silent. They are drawn up, two three-deckers and two two-deckers, nearly in line, some 5 or 6 feet out in the roadstead, and appear as if intended to cover the Malakhoff hill with the fire of their guns. Several steamers are lying near them.

10 A.M.—Three rockets have just been fired by the French from the Victoria redoubt. They are generally supposed to be a signal, but the object is quite unknown. The fire both on our side and on that of the French has slackened during the last half hour. The Russian batteries are almost silent; one gun is fired from the Round Tower about every ten minutes. The Redan has not fired for nearly three quarters of an hour. The Mud Battery in the proper right of the Korniloff Bastion is silenced; the artillery men were compelled to quit their guns by the well-aimed fire from the Quarry Battery. Still no fire of any consequence from the French batteries on the left. The wind has become very changeable and high; it is now blowing from due east. The sky, which for some time after sunrise was quite clear and bright, has become clouded.

1 P.M.—Fire still slack. Three rockets just fired from the Victoria Redoubt.

2 P.M.—The fire has suddenly assumed redoubled energy. The French have opened all their batteries on the left. The lines of batteries are enveloped in a shifting atmosphere of smoke, through which heavy peals of thunder are unceasingly rolling. Some of the Russian batteries seem to have become inclosed with fresh vigour. The marine batteries and some of the batteries on the west side of the south harbour are maintaining an energetic fire. The fire from the Redan and Malakhoff continues very feeble. Several rockets have been thrown from the left of the latter position. The Russian batteries on the north side of the roadstead and some of the Inkermann batteries are pouring a constant fire against the French right. The atmosphere seems to be perturbing in the general convulsion. Clouds have gathered on all sides. Frequent white wreaths are passing over the camp, and high columns of dust are drawn up in their vortices. The wind is veering round to the westward, and though moving with considerable velocity, affords no refreshing relief to the sun's heat; on the contrary, it has all the oppressive close character of the storms. The mountains beyond the Tchernaya seem to echo more loudly the roar of the guns; the ground under foot trembles.

From the heights near the Inkermann valley a good view is obtained of the Russian positions on the north side. In each camp troops are seen to be drawn up in columns. Two small bodies are marching in a direction toward the roadstead, and one has nearly arrived at the usual point of embarkation for crossing to the south side. A long convoy of waggons is slowly wending its way along the brow of the mountain, raising a cloud of dust as it moves towards the Star Fort.

The French say they have received notice that it is probable the assault will take place at four this afternoon.

10 P.M.—The fire from the batteries was kept up with energy throughout the afternoon, and lasted till the daylight disappeared. Seen from the heights above Sebastopol, the sunset were all the appearance usually presented during a thick fog. As it sank into the sea, a reddened glare was cast through the atmosphere of smoke, and over the distant hills. The guns shortly afterwards ceased their fire, and the accumulated haze gradually disappeared. It is now a calm, clear night, the few masses of clouds have passed away; the new moon is shining gracefully among the stars, and over the scene of the day's conflict the distant spectator sees only the shadows they rise and fall in their beautiful flight. Thus finishes the second Sunday after Trinity at Sebastopol.

The French division of troops which marched to the plain yesterday has not moved from the position it then took up. At an early hour this morning musketry, followed by the reports of heavy guns, was heard among the hills beyond Tchorgoun, and shortly after 1 o'clock in the afternoon a few guns were heard in the direction of Mackenzie's farm. It is probable that a portion of the force in the plain have been making a reconnaissance.

The men's rations were ordered to be cooked and issued this afternoon for to-morrow, and it is no longer a secret that a grand attack is contemplated against the whole line of batteries, from the Malakhoff to the Barrack battery, defending the Karabelnaia suburb. The utmost confidence is expressed by the highest authorities of success. The French are to storm the Malakhoff hill and works with a total force of 25,000 men; the English the Redan and Garden batteries, with 9,000 troops. These works being once

especially against the intended points of attack, and that after three or four hours' bombardment—after a sufficient effect had been produced on the enemy's works, and all his spare troops had been removed to a distance from the immediate scene of action—the assault should be suddenly, at a given signal, instituted. At a late hour, however, in the evening of the 17th instant, General Pelissier sent to Lord Raglan to say that reasons of a very urgent nature would compel him to assault at daylight, and that he trusted the British troops would be ready to do the same on their side. This was assented to, it being understood that the Redan was not to be attacked by the English until the Malakhoff hill had been gained by the French. Two reasons are put forward to account for this change of plan. One is, that the French attacking force was so numerous that after daylight it would necessarily be exposed to the enemy from want of sufficient cover in the trenches and works about the Mamelon Vert; the other, that General Pelissier had received notice of an intended attack on the part of the Russians, and that he was anxious to anticipate it. The alteration alluded to was not known generally in camp. When, therefore, the musketry fire opened just at break of day in front of the Mamelon, it was attributed to a sortie from the Russians; and when the French were seen going up towards the Malakhoff works, it was supposed that, having repulsed the sortie, they were induced to follow up the advantage and carry on the attack in turn against the Russian batteries in front. Such was the opinion among the French troops, who were, equally with the English, under the impression that the assault was not intended to be made till 7 or 8 o'clock. But it is now said to be a matter of doubt whether the Russians made any sortie at all, whether the first fire was not from the Russian advanced sentries when they perceived the French troops, who had taken the initiative, coming up the hill. In either case the influence on what followed would be much the same, whether the French advanced in consequence of following up a sortie of the enemy, or spontaneously according to a predetermined plan. The preliminary bombardment was set aside.

There seems to be no doubt that, in spite of the galling fire from the batteries and ships, the fire of the crowds of Russian riflemen above and the constant explosion of mines beneath, some of the French troops were for a few minutes actually within the enemy's works; not merely within the mud barrery on the right, but within the bastion immediately in front of the Round Tower ruin. This it was, perhaps, which induced the general entrusted with the command of the important operation against the Redan to give the signal for the assault. It was immediately acted upon by Colonel Yea, commanding the troops of the Light Division, who were to attack the left face of the Redan; the troops of the Fourth Division, who formed the storming column under Sir John Campbell against the right face, followed shortly afterwards. It is said that the column of the Second Division destined to attack the salient angle, not expecting the assault at that hour, did not perceive the signal until after the hopeless issue of the attempt had been decided, but, whatever the cause, this column did not attack. Had the troops done so, it could have only added to the loss of life, and in no way to the probability of a favourable issue. The events which on the instant followed the first appearance of our troops in the open ground in front of our trenches, exposed at once the insuperable difficulties they had to encounter. A battery of six guns by a hollow between the Redan and Malakhoff Tower was placed in such a position as to be able to sweep the sloping ascent in front of the Redan over which the troops were compelled to pass to reach the work. No attempt had been made by our artillery to silence this battery; said the efforts made to subdue the guns of the larger works, this small work had been overlooked. This is the more extraordinary, as it had been employed by the enemy to a considerable extent when the Quarry works were taken, and subsequently against the working parties engaged in extending them. Then the Russians had not got the exact range, and many of the discharges of shot whistled past over head, but now they had profited by their experience, and every shot told with deadly effect. The earth was scanned up by the unceasing flanking volleys which their guns sent across the Redan hill. From time to time the dust scattered in the air as they tore up the ground was so great, that the soldiers could not see the Redan before them. It is asserted that Colonel Yea at first scarcely perceived the slaughter that must ensue if the assault were persevered in, and its inevitable result, and that he took steps to arrest it at once. He called for a bugler, with the intention of sounding to retire, but no bugler was at hand. In a few minutes too many of the troops were over the parapets and in advance to attempt to put off the attack. Colonel Yea fell just before reaching the abattis. He was hit in two places, and his death-wounds were instantaneous. The abattis was found to be quite perfect; it had evidently been repaired and strengthened the night before. The timber used in its formation was very strong, was not only sunk in the ground, but was also pegged down, so as further to prevent its being dragged up; the projecting branches were pointed, and every opening between the forks and stems, through which there was a chance of creeping, had been sedulously stopped. The Russians had been heard during the night working near the Redan, and the circumstance was reported to the proper authorities; from the sounds, as of driving stakes, it was supposed they were constructing palisading within the work. Captain Stoffort, of the 34th Regt., was killed while attempting to make an opening in the abattis by hacking the palisades with his sword. Of the few men who reached the abattis, some attempted, by lying down, to seek shelter from the fire until reinforcements arrived. But it was plainly seen that to send reinforcements was only to send more men to destruction.

The Malakhoff works had not been carried. The ditch of the Redan was deep and broad—there was no trace of a breach, every embrasure of the Redan had its gun pouring down a deadly discharge of grape, the parapets were crowded with the Russian rifleмen two and three deep, the men told off for carrying the ladders had been killed or wounded, and the heavy ladders themselves were scattered in all directions. Two officers of Engineers, Captain Jones and Lieutenant Graves, with the two columns, were killed, and Lieutenant Murray wounded, and nothing remained but to give up the attempt. Sir John Campbell, who, like Colonel Yea, had also advanced with the storming column, and the supports which had gone up nearly in one body together, was struck in the head when approaching the abattis in front of the right face of the Redan, and killed on the spot. The ground was strewed with the dead and wounded, and many of the latter, unable to gain shelter, were again struck where they had fallen by the fire from the Redan and flanking works.

On the left, the troops of the Third Division under Brigadier General Eyre, who were to attack, in concert with the French, the Garden Batteries, had advanced towards the Cemetery near the head of the South Harbour. This cemetery, which is on the west side of the Harbour Ravine, just where the Woronzoff road bends round and descend along the left shore of the port, is at the foot of the hill, on the high ground of which the ruins of the theatre and other buildings stand, and a little way beyond, towards the town, the Garden batteries. Our men met with considerable opposition at the cemetery. The Russian riflemen from above, and some field-pieces loaded with grape, continued to pour down a destructive fire, after the cemetery had been cleared of the enemy. General Eyre was leaning against a small obelisk, when a round shot struck it, and the fragments of stone so severely injured him that he had to leave. Subsequently, after his wounds were dressed, the general returned to the command of the operations. Several houses beyond the cemetery were taken possession of, but the French had not moved on the left, and it was therefore impossible to advance against the batteries. The French had not moved because they saw that the Redan was not gained; and even could the Garden Batteries have been carried, they could not have been held without the fire of the Russian Batteries and Redan being first silenced. General Eyre could not withdraw his force, for on all sides they would now be exposed to a galling fire, and he was compelled therefore, notwithstanding the enemy was throwing down shell on the houses of which they kept possession, to wait until darkness arrived to cover his retreat. The loss was very severe; one regiment, the 19th Royal Irish, lost considerably over two hundred men in killed and wounded. After night had fallen, the troops vacated this position—a fact of which the Russians did not appear to be aware, for they took no steps to secure it. The next day, when the dead were being buried, our engineers, under Major Chapman, observed the ground, and at night large working parties were sent to throw up the necessary cover, and to connect it with the French advanced works on the left, and our works on the Greenhill attack. This position now remains in our possession.

The houses in and by our men had been previously occupied, and were well furnished. Various articles of female apparel were scattered about. The gardens were full of fruit-trees, and the yards abounded in poultry. Being a suburb, as it were, and in a sheltered position, these dwellings had escaped the destruction which had been inflicted on the buildings on the summit of the hill.

The returns of our losses show a less amount of casualties among the men that it was feared would be given; but still the number returned is above fourteen hundred. The loss in killed and wounded among officers is greater than was anticipated, being eighty-three. The wind rose after the engagement had taken place, and toward noon almost amounted to a gale. Dense clouds of dust were swept by, and several of the wounded seized this opportunity to get back to our trenches without being seen by the enemy.

Among those who miraculously escaped was Lieut.-Colonel Lysons of the 23rd Regiment. He had been originally selected to lead the attacking column of the Light Division, but late at night preceding the attack, this officer was placed in command of the supporting party, and Captain Lyon, of the 34th Regiment, was appointed to head the assault. The supports, however, moved almost at the same time as the attacking column, and Colonel Lysons was one of the first and few who reached the abattis. He escaped with a wound of the knee, fortunately not of a serious character. Out of twelve officers of the 34th Regiment who went up with the four hundred men selected to make the assault, only two escaped slaughter.

Early in the afternoon of the 19th instant a flag of truce was hoisted from our works, but was not replied to by the Russians. It remained an hour, and was then struck. Shortly afterwards a white flag appeared on Fort Constantine, and a communication took place by boats. It is presumed that the arrangements of the truce were then settled, for at 4 o'clock the white flag again appeared on all the works in front of which the dead were lying. A chain of cavalry was drawn across the ground in rear of the British position, to prevent any from going to the front who were not on duty in burying or conveying the dead to camp. Parades were ordered in the several Divisions, to prevent the soldiers leaving the camp. Several persons however, who had gone on advance previous to the arrival of the cavalry, went to the front, and had an opportunity of examining the ground where the contest had taken place. The Russians threw out a line of sentries immediately in front of their works, a precaution which was not adopted on our side, but was not necessary, as none of the enemy advanced beyond a certain limit, which appeared to be settled to be neutral ground. Our dead had not been stripped; their arms and accoutrements had alone been taken from them. The bodies of Sir John Campbell and Colonel Yea were found a short way from the abattis. The body of Lieutenant Graves, Royal Engineers, a most gallant young officer, was also discovered at the very front. The Engineers suffered severely. Captain Jones, who was killed, had only arrived three days in the Crimea. Lieutenant Murray, who was doing duty as captain, has since died from the effect of his wounds.

During the cessation a series of sunk mines, similar to those in front of the Malakhoff Tower and Redan, were discovered in front of the old Russian rifle pit which was taken at the same time with the Quarry works. The mines had been placed by the enemy in front of this pit, between it and the end of one of the bogans of our old advanced work. These mines were taken up and removed without injury to anyone.

Away from the immediate scene of the siege operations the most important event has been the advance of the Sardinians, together with about 600 of our 10th Hussars from Tchorgoun towards Khutor Mackenzie. They are now about four miles and a half in advance, near a village marked in the maps Otu-ch. Mackenzie's Farm is said to be very strongly fortified.

Several of our general officers are on the sick list. Major-General Estcourt has been seized by a dangerous attack of cholera. Lieutenant-General Brown has also been confined to his house by illness. Major-General Codrington and Penefather have been compelled to leave camp from the same cause. Captain Savage, Royal Artillery, died yesterday, after a very short illness, from cholera.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, June 20.

No move of importance has occurred in the siege operations the last few days. The French are sapping up towards the Malakhoff, and already the trenches make a considerable show. An extensive *place d'armes* has been formed in front of the Mamelon. The armament in the White Redoubt (Selenghinsk Redoubt), above Careening Bay, is being strengthened and works added. The small 8-gun work, descried by the Russians, at the extremity of the spur, is still unoccupied, except by a few French riflemen; it is not in a position to be rendered available against the enemy's works on the west side of the Careening ravine. The Russians are adding to their number of guns on the verge of the cliffs on the north side of the roadstead opposite to Mount Sapone.

On our side we are engaging the sap towards the Redan, and as yet have met with any interruption from the enemy. A trench has also been made to connect the extremities of the right and middle boyau, proceeding with the old advanced work, and this again has been joined to the parallel extended from the Quarry Battery. A new battery of considerable strength is also in course of construction; it is expected that it will chiefly be brought to bear against the Russian shipping. When Colonel Yea fell in the attack on the Redan, he had with him a plan of the works in the right attack; this, however, could give the enemy little information beyond what he already possesses. All the trenches and batteries on Frenchman's-hill, from the sloping nature of the ground, are fully exposed to his view. It is alone possible to keep secret the exact position and nature of the armament of the new batteries; but it would appear, from the counterworks erected, that the enemy has means of obtaining speedy information even on those subjects.

I append a brief diary of the circumstances which have transpired the last three days.

June 21.—Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown left camp this morning to go on board the Royal Albert, for the purpose of recruiting his health. He has been suffering from a severe attack of diarrhœa, and, though relieved from all urgent symptoms, has been much weakened by his illness. Major-General Codrington, who has also been ailing, is about to pay the Admiral a visit in the same vessel.

The First Division (Guards and Highlanders) is to continue assisting in the trench duties of the right attack. The increased extent of the works, and the proportionally greater number of the Guards required on pontoon them, the large number of working parties which will now be necessary to carry on the new approaches toward the Redan and Karabelnaia and to construct certain newly-projected batteries, demand a greater force than the Light and Second Divisions can afford, consistently with maintaining the troops in good health. Some of the regiments of the Light Division are greatly reduced in strength. The 34th Regiment has no captain, and only three subalterns available for duty, and both it and the 7th Fusiliers have had to borrow officers from other regiments to carry on the duties.

Captain Hill, of the 22nd Regt., died yesterday in camp, from cholera. He had volunteered his services in the Crimea, and was doing duty with the 79th Highlanders. He was taken ill in the trenches, and left with the intention of returning to the camp of the Highland Brigade. On arriving at the Light Division tents he became so ill that he was not permitted to proceed further, and he died within the lines of the 68th Regiment, in the tent of one of the officers who had kindly taken him in on hearing the serious nature of his attack.

A long line of arabas was observed to move along the eastern side to-day, coming from the eastward to an open space below the Star Fort. They appeared to be empty. On their arrival at the open space before mentioned they were regularly marshalled into six lines. It is suspected they have been brought for the removal of sick and wounded. The steamer usually employed in transporting troops across the harbour, and which has been lying close to Fort Paul all day, got up steam towards evening, and went over to the landing place near Fort Nicholas. She appeared to be taking in troops as the sun set. It is not unlikely that this cool period of the day would be selected for the transport of the wounded to the north side.

About 8 p.m. the camp was visited by a tremendous storm of lightning. The electric disturbance was so extensively diffused, the flashes were so vivid and so continuous, that for minutes together the camp was exposed to view as clearly as in full moonlight. Scarcely a drop of rain was perceived in front, but near Balaklava it fell in torrents, and caused considerable damage to the railway and several sheds. The railway chiefly suffered near Kadikoi, and

several days must elapse before the injury can be repaired.

24th.—General Pennefather left by the Colombo to-day for England. His constitution is said to have suffered considerably from the efforts of the campaign. The Light and Second Divisions are now without any general officer, whether divisional or brigadier. Major-General Codrington, it is stated, will have the command of the Second Division, as soon as his health will permit him to return to camp. His loss will be felt very much in the brigade, which he has commanded with the utmost satisfaction on all sides since the first landing of the army in the Crimea.

General Estcourt died early this morning, to the great regret of a numerous circle of friend. of cholera. He was attacked with the disease on the 22nd instant, but had been ill for some days previously. On the 23rd all the symptoms had much improved, and hopes were held out of recovery. He became worse at night, however, and gradually sank. His affability, and many social qualities, ensured him a great number of personal admirers. His successor has not been named, and some doubts have been expressed whether the duties of the vacant office would not be amalgamated with those of the chief of the staff.

The French have been throwing shells at the large Russian ships in the Great Harbour from some batteries on the left. Several shells fell very near; in one instance a shell fell into the water between two of the ships—a three-decker and two-decker, but without doing any harm. The ships still remain broadside on the direction of the Malakhoff-hill. On several nights lately, boats from the fleet have stolen in towards the mouth of the Great Harbour, and discharged shells and rockets into the town. They have been within range of the guns of the forts, but the darkness has prevented the enemy from determining their position, notwithstanding the momentary flashes of their fire.

Active search has been made during the last few days for Russian spies supposed to be in the camp. Several innocent persons have been taken up on suspicion. Among others, Captain Freemen Armstrong, of the 18th Royal Irish regiment, was yesterday arrested as a spy. He had come over on horseback from the Third Division, and in consequence of some striking peculiarities in his dress and appearance, and certain questions about the works on Frenchman's-hill which he put to the guard at the picket-house, he was thought to be a Russian agent in an assumed dress. Notice was given to the Provost-Sergeant, who followed Captain Armstrong to Inkermann, and there arrested him. It was in vain he made assertions of his being an officer of the 18th Regiment, he was compelled to come to the proper authorities. As he moved along, a crowd of soldiers gathered, both French and English; there was no doubt that he was a spy, and loud was the explosion of indignation which followed. Captain Armstrong became excited, and it was perhaps fortunate that his sword, which was carried, and not at all of the ordinary English shape, was taken from him. He was not identified until he reached the Adjutant-General's office of the Light Division. A short time since a Russian agent passed in a direction towards the Mamelon, dressed in the uniform of a French captain of the line. Something led to suspicion respecting his real character, and he was interrogated. As he did not know the name of the colonel of the regiment, nor which division the regiment belonged to, he was removed for closer examination elsewhere, and the fact of his being in disguise was speedily proved. Several of the Greek fishermen seen in camp have been taken up on suspicion of being spies.

25th.—A melancholy occurrence, involving unnecessary loss of life, took place last evening in the **advanced works of the right attack. Lieutenant Hans Marsh**, Adjutant of the 33rd Regiment, had to pass from one of the boyaux in a direction toward the left zigzag approach, near the trench lately taken from the enemy and connected with the Quarry works. There was a covered way along which he could pass free from risk, but he moved as if to cross by the open ground. A friend cautioned him not to do so, as the saving of time and space would be so unimportant, and pointed out that the Russian sharpshooters were firing from the front of the Redan. "Firing is not hitting" was the reply, and unfortunately he followed the rash promptings of the momentary impulse and went forward. He was fully exposed to view, and the enemy fired a volley. One ball more true than the rest struck him in the head, and he fell dead on the instant. He had not advanced ten yards when the event took place. Lieutenant Marsh was quite young, had only lately received the appointment of adjutant, was active and intelligent, and gave promise of being a most efficient officer.

Captain Smith, of the 9th Regiment, succumbed yesterday to the wounds he received on the 18th inst. He was struck in the back while helping a wounded officer of the 18th Regiment on a stretcher, and no hope was entertained of his recovery from the first. The wounded in the field hospitals, both officers and men, are reported to be progressing most favourably, and the benefits arising from the necessity of their removal to Scutari and elsewhere being obviated by the greater accommodation in camp are fully appareil.

Heavy gales of wind from the south and south-west have prevailed all day, and dense clouds of dust have been passing through the camp. Rain-clouds have been hovering over the mountains, and thunder has occasionally been audible.

The fire in the batteries has been slack.

26th. A bright, warm morning. The wind subsided towards evening, and the night was quiet. There was scarcely any firing on either side, and the working parties pursued their labour without interruption.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, June 26.

The illness of Field Marshal Lord Raglan has been the subject which has principally occupied the thoughts of the army during the last few days. The sad event of his decease, which took place on the evening of the 28th instant, has thrown all other occurrences in the shade. It made, perhaps, the deeper impression from following so shortly after the death of the Adjutant-General, Major-General Estcourt, and from being associated with the fact of the illness of the second in command, Sir George Brown, and the absence of so many of the general officers from the same cause. It has often been a matter of surprise that Lord Raglan preserved his health so well as he did. For a long time he passed so many hours of each day at the desk, scarcely ever taking exercise in the open air, and dragging himself the ordinary promenade amount of exercise, that it was feared his constitution would break under the effort. He remained in good health, however, while that of so many others around him failed. For several months past he has taken almost daily exercise on horseback, and the opportunities have been frequent of observing how favourable an aspect the commander-in-chief still wore. The opinion both ground very generally that the ill-success of the combined attack against the enemy's works on the 18th of June was one of the causes which led to the illness under which Lord Raglan sank. The character of Lord Raglan as a commander and strategist cannot be duly estimated yet. Even his amount of responsibility in the recent unfavourable assault is estimated very differently in various quarters; and in this, as in so many other occurrences in the course of the campaign, how much of the event has been owing to "divided authority" is now known little more than by rumour and surmise. History alone can unravel the true nature and relations of these matters. As to the qualities of Lord Raglan in private and social life, one expression of feeling alone exists: he was amiable and kind-hearted almost to a fault, and his bearing and manners afforded a perfect specimen of the English gentleman.

Some of the leading events of the last few days are noted in the following diary:

June 21.—The state of health of Field-Marshal Lord Raglan is becoming the source of much anxiety. It has been generally known in camp for some days past that the Commander-in-Chief was incapacitated from performing his arduous duties by an attack of illness, but it was reported that none of the symptoms were of a serious character. It is reported to-day that although the disease which has been disturbing without any symptoms of cholera, is in a great degree subdued, still there is so much general weakness as occasionally in a person of Lord Raglan's age to cause serious alarm. The death of Major-General Estcourt is said to have affected him very deeply, and to have added to the previously existing physical depression. Deputy Inspector-General Dr. Alexander has been sent for to meet the other physicians in consultation. Dr. Prendergast, a physician of considerable reputation in the army, is the medical attendant in ordinary of the Field-Marshal.

Colonel Steele, the military secretary, has been suffering from an attack of cholera, but is now convalescent. Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown still remains on board the Royal Albert at Kamich

Bay, and, it is said, is not regaining strength so fast as was hoped. The chief of the staff, Lieutenant-General Simpson, being next in seniority, is performing the duties of the command-in-chief during the illness of Lord Raglan.

Our allies have greatly added to the extent of the trenches on the right of the Mamelon. There is now a perfect labyrinth of covered ways and approaches on this side. They have carried them forward considerably in advance of the old Russian approach which was made to connect the Kamptchatka redoubt on the one side with the Selenghinsk redoubt on the other side of the Careening Bay ravine. This approach was carried nearly in a straight line down the Mamelon hill, across the comparatively flat ground between it and the Careening Bay ravine, across the ravine itself, and up the steep ascent to the redoubtes Mount Sapone. The French have established another parallel beyond this, so far as regards the ground on the west side of the ravine, and have thus gained a considerable advance on that side towards the Careening port and the great roadstead. In the most forward part of this advanced parallel, a powerful battery, spoken of as the Marine Battery, has been constructed. The guns of this work control, in a great degree, the position formerly occupied by the vessels near Careening Bay, and would, in all probability, prevent a recurrence of the fire which the ships were previously able to direct against our allies in their movements on the right flank of the Mamelon Vert, and which told with fatal effect as their columns advanced on that side in the attack against the Malakhoff works.

Our allies are also very actively employed in the works on the east side of the Careening ravine. Large working parties are nightly engaged in changing the aspect of the batteries, and adding to the armament in the redoubt nearest to the ravine, which, when in the possession of the enemy, was called the Selenghinsk Redoubt. In the daytime the troops contrive to strengthen the parapets thrown up at night. In the second redoubt, that a little farther to the east and more in advance, working parties are also employed. The Russians called this the Volhynia Redoubt: the French have named it "La Redoubte Noire," from the dark mould of which the parapets are formed, and in contradistinction to the former, "La Redoubte Blanche," which appears conspicuously white from the debris of the limestone rock of which its face chiefly consists. It is said that two monster 24-inch mortars have arrived for our allies, each requiring a fabulous amount of powder to project a shell so enormously heavy that it has to be lifted into the gun by a mechanical contrivance, and that these mortars are to be brought up to Mount Sapone, to be used against the large ships in the roadstead. No guns have been placed in the small 9-gun battery placed across the ridge near the extremity of the spur over the Careening port. On the projecting point of cliff, almost immediately opposite, on the north side of the roadstead, just where what is sometimes called the Bay of Inkermann commences, is one of the enemy's batteries, which has been greatly strengthened of late. The battery is in a line with the cliff, and close to its verge. This work now mounts twelve guns of heavy calibre. Their line of fire is directed against the works on Mount Sapone. The cliff on which the 12-gun battery is placed has considerably the advantage in elevation over the extreme spur to the east of Careening Port, the nearest point under its fire, and the small 9-gun work, though it could be employed by the Russians, is not available therefore for French artillery purposes. It is, however, occupied by a small body of sharpshooters. A frequent fire is kept up by the guns of the 12-gun battery before named against the French working parties in the Mount Sapone redoubts.

The large advanced battery in our right attack, destined to act against the shipping, has made great progress; and a second battery, with the same object, has been commenced in another part of the work.

The French line-of-battle ships and other vessels are still moored in that part of the roadstead which is enclosed between a line drawn nearly northwards from the west side of the south harbour, and another imaginary line commencing half way between Fort Paul and Careening Bay, and finishing on the opposite side, in Hollandia Bay. The limit on the west side of the south harbour is not an imaginary one, however; it is formed by the line of sunken vessels, or whatever may be the nature of the obstruction, stretching from before Fort Nicholas towards Sievernaia. The ships would have to force through this obstruction to get into Artillery Bay. The two 3-deckers and the 2-deckers are still moored broadside on to the Karabelnaia, and retain a threatening attitude against the Redan and Malakhoff works. The vessels of less pretension are chiefly congregated on the north side of the roadstead.

A short distance northward of the Russian 12-gun battery of which mention has been made above, and on the side of a gentle slope, is one of the Russian burying grounds. It covers a wide extent of ground. There is a line of trees on the further side, and several much frequented roads pass near it. The great bulk of the tents, however, comprising what has been supposed to be a vast cantonment for sick and wounded, is on a higher elevation, and extends more in an easterly direction. During the last few days four or five very large mounds of earth have been raised at one end of this burying ground. The chief part of the ground appears to be covered by graves of ordinary size, above which is a perfect thicket of small black and white crosses, and among them a few monuments of larger size and more imposing appearance. It has been suggested that the large mounds alluded to have been thrown up from some deep and spacious excavations made as receptacles of the dead, with a view perhaps of obviating or limiting the further extension of the graves upon the surface. The mounds, although consisting of dark mould, are very conspicuous from their size.

Some heavy 13-inch shells have been thrown from one of the mortar batteries on our left attack into the centre of the town. The clouds of smoke caused by their explosion have been observed to rise chiefly in the neighbourhood of the building, which, from its fine portico and row of columns facing our position, as well as its prominent site, forms one of the most striking features in our view of the town. The building itself, which has been variously designated by some as the Club-house, by others (although without spire or belfry) as a church, hitherto has escaped uninjured. The palatial dwelling-house, supposed to be the governor's residence, and by the side of which a flag not unlike our union jack is constantly flying, also remains intact.

Although the temperature has been very much lower, the thermometer not having indicated a higher degree in the shade than 70 F. during the last two or three days, cholera has perceptibly increased, as well as the ordinary accompaniments of dysppepsia and diseases of the bowels. Ensign Fitzpatrick, of the 30th Regiment, died yesterday, after a short attack of this disease. This officer had served indefatigably during the winter as a volunteer, and had only a short time received his commission. The cases in the field-hospitals are said to be, with few exceptions, of a comparatively mild and manageable character, and although the disease has become very widely diffused, both in the camps in front as well as in those in rear and on the plain, still nowhere has it assumed the alarming features of a serious outbreak. Perhaps the variable temperature, and other conditions of the atmosphere, may have induced the spread of these diseases. The long continued drought has been succeeded at last by rain. This morning it fell heavily, and showers have occurred at intervals during the afternoon. Heavy, dark clouds have been resting upon the mountains, and far off the usual indications of thunder-storms were noticed.

The fire in the batteries has been slack all day. The popping of musketry, which ceased for a short time after the Mamelon redoubt was captured, is now again heard, especially at night, in the advanced trenches.

The following general order was published to-day:

"In consequence of the death of Major-General Estcourt, assistant-general of the army, which melancholy event took place on the 25th instant, the duties of the adjutant-general's department will be carried on by Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. W. Fitzhanham, A.A.G., until further orders."

June 28.—The reply made to inquiries is, that Lord Raglan has passed a quiet night, and is better this morning. He remains, however, in a very weak state.

There was very heavy rain during the night, and the morning continues overcast and clouded. Showers fall frequently.

The Russians threw some light-balls last night from the Redan, and discovered a spot where our working parties had been busily employed. Fortunately the men had just ceased from working, and had retired under the protection of the parapet. The enemy, evidently under the impression that the new work would afford very little cover, threw some heavy discharges of grape and shell in its direction, but without causing any casualties.

No further attempt has been made at sapping up towards the Redan. The flanking fire of the enemy's works, and the stony nature of the remaining part

of the Redan-hill, prevent such an operation, which, most of necessity be very slow and laborious, from being undertaken at present. The advanced trench of the Quarry-work has been extended on the left down the slope of the hill toward the left ravine, so as to guard against any sudden attack of the enemy against the work on this side. On the right, the trenches taken from the Russians, as well as our own approaches, sufficiently protect it against any such an attempt.

News has been received in the camp that Omer Pasha has returned with his troops from the reconnaissance toward Mastienka's farm, as well as the Sardinians, and that the enemy was found to be strongly entrenched, and his position defended on all sides by powerful batteries. The part of the 10th Hussars which accompanied the expedition has also rejoined their head quarters. Capt. Charles Rowles, who commanded a troop, fell a victim to cholera during this brief absence of the regiment.

Notwithstanding the favourable replies respecting the state of Lord Raglan's health this morning, in the course of the afternoon it was whispered in camp that the Field-Marshal was in a very precarious state. At a still later hour of the evening it was said that all hope of recovery was abandoned, and between nine and ten o'clock at night the intelligence of his lamented decease was quickly dispersed among the various camps. It appears that towards noon a very unfavourable change took place, the debility increased in a marked manner, and there was a fainting fit in the afternoon, and from this time his lordship gradually sank until he expired about nine o'clock. He retained his faculties and self-possession until a short period prior to his decease. As may be imagined, this important event has absorbed all other thoughts; it has not yet left room for the discussion even of its probable influence on the great enterprise in which the army is engaged, over which the late Commander of the Forces presided.

The unsuccessful attack of the 18th of June, which there is little doubt was one of the remote, if not one of the chief, causes which led to the fatal illness of Lord Raglan, was referred to in the general orders of this day's date in the following terms:

GENERAL ORDER.

Head Quarters before Sebastopol, June 21.

The Field-Marshal has the satisfaction of publishing to the army the following extract of a telegraphic despatch from Lord Panmure, dated the 21st of June:—

"I have her Majesty's commands to express her great grief at such bravery should not have been rewarded with merited success; and to assure her brave troops that her Majesty's confidence in them is entire."

June 20. The great event of last evening was announced at an early hour this morning to the army generally, in the following terms:

MEMORANDA GENERAL ORDER.

Head Quarters before Sebastopol, 20th June.

1. It becomes my painful duty to announce to the army the decease of its beloved commander, Field Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., which melancholy event took place last night about nine o'clock.

2. In the absence of Lieut.-General Sir George Brown, the command of the forces devolves on me, being the next senior officer present, until further orders from England.

3. Generals of division and heads of departments will be pleased to conduct the respective duties as heretofore.

(Signed) JAMES SIMPSON, Lieutenant-General.

Sir George Brown leaves the Crimea for a time on account of ill health; but it is reported that he will not probably prolong his absence longer than is necessary for a voyage to Malta. Although still weak, it is hoped that the benefit of the sea air will shortly restore his strength, and it is not probable that one so interested in the success of the campaign as the Lieutenant-General would omit to seize the first opportunity of restored health to return to the scene of operations. Major-General Codrington is also on board ship, but is reported to have improved so much in health, that he will not require to leave. The number of general officers doing duty in the field at present is limited indeed. The Light Division and Second Division are without any general officer, and the First, Third, and Fourth Divisions can only muster five general officers of all ranks among them.

The 13th Prince Albert's Regiment of Light Infantry, arrived to day from Gibraltar.

Among the casualties in the trenches last night Lieutenant Charles Collett, of the 62nd Regiment, received a severe wound in the body from a rifle ball. The ball had previously passed through the arm of a soldier of the 90th Regiment.

There has been more firing from the Malakhoff and Redan batteries to-day than for many days past. The Cossack fortifies on the north side have also kept up an active fire against the French works on the right. There has been very little movement on the left.

The *Moniteur* thus notices Lord Raglan's death:

"For some days past letters received from London have stated that Lord Raglan was seriously ill. A despatch from General Pelissier, received this day under date of June 28, 10 o'clock p.m., announces the death of the worthy general whom the government of Queen Victoria had chosen to command our allies in the East. France will join in the regrets of General Pelissier."

The following is his despatch to the Minister of War:

"It is with profound regret I have to announce to you that the venerable Chief of the English army breathed his last sigh this evening at nine o'clock. We are the more grieved since his condition had seemed for the last 24 hours much improved."

[BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.]

PARIS, SUNDAY.

Further news by the Ganges state that the French, in their attack on the 18th, advanced as far as the Malakhoff Tower, but met with a ditch dug by the Russians on the previous night. It was on this account that the scaling ladders proved too short. The garrison sent up masses of troops, which, being supported by the Russian ships firing with all their guns on the approaches to the Tower, compelled the French to retreat. The Russians, trying to follow up their advantage, advanced towards the Mamelon Vert, but being cut up by our grape-shot, were forced to retire, after enormous loss. Three English regiments having lost their chiefs, were obliged to evacuate the Grand Redan, surrounded, as they were, by a superior force.

Lord Raglan's last illness.

Extract of a private letter from an army surgeon, dated Camp before Sebastopol, June 30, 1855:—"Lord Raglan died with just the same symptoms as Sir Benjamin D'Urban, the Commander of the Forces in Canada during the Elgin riots at Montreal—mental depression acting on a body physically debilitated by cholera. The diarrhœa was not severe, and only indicative of the weakness under which body and spirit were at the time labouring. General Estcourt's death affected him very much, and combined with the influences I have already named to produce the fatal termination. No medicine nor ministering could cure such a malady."

Assistant-Surgeon Pelly 97th Regt.

A correspondent in the Crimea writes under date of June 20th:—"The number of medical officers according from the profession of surgery in the army, and adopting that of the sword, is rapidly increasing. Assistant-Surgeon Shaw Phelps, of the 57th Regiment, whose retirement appears in the Gazette of the 15th June, just arrived, was appointed to an analogous in the same regiment on the same date. This is the sixth instance within a few weeks. Many others of the medical officers have applied for permission to retire with the same object in view."

Services of General Simpson.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIMPSON served in the Peninsula from May, 1812, to May, 1813, including the latter part of the defence of Cadiz, and the attack on Seville. Served also the campaign of 1815, and was severely wounded at Quatre Bras. He served as second in command to Sir Charles Napier during the campaign against the mountain and desert tribes situated on the right bank of the Indus early in 1843.

ARMY SURGEONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—If an army surgeon, by devising a wrong operation, or by listening to suggestions unwarranted by the circumstances of his own case and acting upon them, or by injudicious manipulation, had led to the sacrifice of the life or limb of a patient placed in his hands, what would have followed?—misery, indignation, commonwealth, and degradation. And deservedly so. But if, in defiance of all rules, wrongly conceived and wrongly carried out, a military operation fails, and a few hundred lives are needlessly sacrificed, a despatch or two, some correspondence, and the usual laurels and orders are not distributed. As often happens in commercial transactions, the heedless speculator finds shelter in the very magnitude of his failure. Look at the massive Redan, with its formidable line of batteries and its flanking batteries on either side—justly formidable from their position; see its ditch deepened and doubled, and its abattis strengthened with all that Russian art that Sir John Burgoyne has told us is so available; with all knowledge that this Redan is part of the key-stone to Russia's retention of her town and arsenal of Sebastopol, that he'd not to long and from which as yet little else but outworks have been taken, after nine months' siege; examine it, and then imagine a handful—though the bravest of the brave, a mere handful—being ordered to go and take it! With such an obstacle as that abattis perfect; without the sign of a breach, much less a practicable breach; with flanking batteries unsilenced and not even attempted to be silenced; with no attempt to deceive the enemy as to the intended attack, no diversion worthy of the name, to divide his power to resist it; at daybreak when, by established rule, the whole disposable force of every garrison is under arms, and massed on the gun rows there at any other hour of the twenty-four; without proper or sufficient appliances; it was a handful of men up such a slope, and under such a fire, to attempt such impossibilities—what was it but throwing them to be mowed down by the malicious sickle of hostile death? What description of measure of censure was there under such circumstances? "They will never try it," said experience, "unless the Malakhoff is fully secured, or unless they have some secret Sebastopol, some means of getting into the work that we don't know of. Why, every man would be whirled off the face of the hill by grape, not a soul would escape if they attempted to go up it." Colonel Yea, used as he was to more noisy shot and shell, and all obedient to military discipline, seeing at once the certain fate of his column, magnanimously determined to withdraw the men before the hill was mounted, but could not find a bugler to sound the retreat. In a few moments it was too late, and, rushing forward, he fell with his devoted band, like a true British soldier that he was. "Tell ——that we are all murdered," was the exclamation, in his agony, of one dying officer. "Were your generals mad or drunk?" asked a Russian at the subsequent armistice for burying the dead. Oh, it may well cause depression of spirits, it might almost cause despondency, did we not know of what materials our regiments are composed, to see our day the object after which we have been so long sweating, all but within our grasp, the next day ready as far off as ever. Such confidence given to the one side, such fruitless end lose to the other!

Depend upon it, in the end, England will deserve the mistake of her partial distribution of rewards and punishments. Experience will teach. As a military surgeon, I write, of course, under invitation, but I only quote facts. Can generals, can the staff err? Has old real punishment followed all the grave errors of Balgavia and one dreadful winter among the proved and responsible offenders? On the contrary, have not official influence and parliamentary interest prevailed, and has not Lord Palmerston contrived to remove all the odium of those errors from the General and Staff Departments, and ambled by generals and staff officers themselves, succeeded in casting it on the subordinate Commissariat and Medical Departments?—those departments where the drudgery and gratuity of the country are not!" Honours to the honoured, more grist to the mill, none to the plebeian. Who of all the Commander-in-Chief's personal staff rode with him in his ambulance through the fire of Alma, attended him in all his movements since, safe, still by his side in the battle of Inkermann's hill, he surveyed the slaughter before the Redan, and alone of them all has remained without reward, without honour or reward of any sort? his surgeon. The military man's duty it is to make fire, the medical man's education his how to heal, and if, in the exercise of his calling, he exposes himself as officers are exposed, it might well be looked upon as something extra-professional, something worthy of notice, if his coolness had character observed it. When an advanced battery in the left attack was first opened, and the fire against it was so terrific that no one within it escaped blow or bruise, and the battery itself had shortly to be shut up, who, of all the men within it, was alone unmentioned?—the medical officer. All honour to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who, the highest among us by birth, formed the same even of an assistant-surgeon to be went-and in a general despatch. And mark the reward! The assistant-surgeon, by a brave and gallant act, at the right time, performs good military service, saving British honour, and the silk, perhaps, of a royal duke and general in the field. As if it were none fond of professional excellence, he is promoted, out of turn, above his professional colleagues. But he has no mark of distinction among those titled officers whom the royal duke, after the action, assembled to hear the surgeon's praise and the expression of his own gratitude. Where was then the order—the civil order, if you choose to call it so—of the Bath? Is there another service in the world where such merit would be so rewarded? However, the mere mention of the surgeon's name in a British despatch was a great event. The bread fast is present—generals, staff, and administrators of all denominations, may commit the gravest errors, and they are punished with friends, ribbons, promotion, and rank; surgeons, *of hoc genus omne*, not Palmerstonian enough in their antecedents, are the people to be punished with unwritings and all kinds of sub-pedal applications. Let a surgeon or assistant-surgeon transgress, the punishment must follow at once, resolute, life is at stake. The next! When a surgeon arrives at some high staff position, he is master men of authority, and, if not Palmerstonian himself, is among Palmerstonians, to be may be let off with a "general order."

It is the injustice that makes us cry out, the one-sided view. Boot an honourable, all is honourable. The office is open, and no wrong can be done by the occupant. Born one of the many, the wrong only can be discovered. Alliance with our gallant and more just neighbour has made us feel the infinitive more intolerably. The cocked-hat *Gazette* was such a gluttonous mouthful that it nearly choked the greedy possessor, and led eventually to the fighting officer of regiments being invited to a share of the well furnished table. Their behaviour warranted this mark of favour. Some day, others who have done their duty well to the country may be noticed. Not that any can claim the right of reward for duty done; but when rewards are so lavishly distributed in those on the one hand, it is tantamount to punishment not to bestow a few on the other. The great effort of the patentees, military and ministerial, has hitherto been to convert the medical and commissariat departments of the army into a sort of Atlas for carrying away a world of blundering mal-administration and wrong results: but it is too much to expect the Atlas will bend under his load without murmuring. If there have been great faults in these departments, those faults are chargeable to their respective heads, and let them settle the matter with the Palmerstonian heads with whom they sit, or ought to sit, in council, and whom they assent to be the prime offenders. How many "commonsense" hold in writing the proofs of what I write? Do not silent for punishment the men who are conscious of having risked and worked their utmost in carrying out the charge entrusted to them. It is not wise to do so. Already the medical officers are sufficiently disgusted, and seeking how they can best quit the service and the odium they have been subjected to. Several assistant-surgeons have already resigned their commissions; more would have done so had they been permitted. Some have cast aside their medical capacity; have thrown up their higher rank and higher pay for the inferior grade of surgeon, seeing a better prospect of success in life from the lower position. An instance occurs in the Gazette of June the 1st. In this instance Assistant-Surgeon Mackaway, of the 30th Regiment, had already proved himself, during nearly five years' service, a valuable medical officer. He is now an ensign. The loss of his experience, in exchange for that of an ensign ambitious, and each seeking assistants as have been sent out lately, is really a loss to the service. The soldier surgeon has many jobs, by food and field many hardships to undergo; many losses to incur that civil surgeons know nothing of, and, with all their present pay, would not wish to encounter. Hospitals in the rear, even a camp like this before Sebastopol—where the civil surgeon incurs not the dangers and exposure of the trenches, but no fatigue beyond the exercise of his professional duties, and is comparatively an independent man—give but little insight into the calling of the soldier surgeon.

In the Gazette of the 8th of June, just received, I see the resignation of another medical officer; and in another part of the same Gazette I see a fellow taking the appointment of a surgeon. And shall I tell you the truth? There is nothing a surgeon in the field who would not gladly leave, if he could get a remuneration for his lost prize and past services. Zeal and the desire to go beyond mere duty have been extinguished by long-continued severe and neglectful. Who can know the army can honestly say that any distinguishing mark of approbation or favour has been shown to any regimental surgeon ever sensible, something to send home, or advertise, whether in, Bulgaria or the Crimea? Have not secrecy and concavity, staying and going, been all alike invoked with silent indifference? Has not one instance of a staff surgeon been published to the world, when

shelters below our belly in England, hastily put away under pretence of leaving the service? Though he actually appeared in General Orders as having tendered the resignation of his commission, and therefore permitted to return to England, what followed? Quite at home, within easy of exchanging, he has remained at home, or walked on the strand—nay, more, has received promotion over those who remained behind. And here are two of all those medical officers who from various causes have left their posts in the field benefited on reaching England! Take, for example, the present confidential assistant to the Director-General in London. How much duty did he do with Sir G. Brown's division, of which he was supposed to have the superintendence? In the Kussian service, where the surgeon acts under a higher rank and enjoys greater consideration, every medical be employed in the siege of Sebastopol counts for twelve months of ordinary service. Let the English public take the pertinent to make a distinction in the estimation of surgical performed before Sebastopol and of service performed simply in Scotland, or on pleasant trips about the Peninsulas, and I will make a good deal that the appointments for medical boards will wonderfully decrease in number among officers of all ranks and conditions. As regards army surgeons especially, so far from encouragement being given to them in the performance of their duty where danger and exposure are greatest, every judicious, positive and negative, has been offered for them to put away from it by the first opportunity. While generals continue to provide so much employment for this branch of the service, in this province—Pulteg, as well as justice, demands a different course. It would be a very wise measure which secured a more fair and equable distribution of rewards and punishments than England, or rather English governments have hitherto made among the non-purchasing commissioned.

M. M.

ARMY SURGEONS AND THEIR PROMOTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

Crimea, July 27.

SIR,—An official despatch of the late Field Marshal Lord Raglan, dated June 23, to Lord Panmure, contains an enclosure, dated June 19, from Brigadier-General Eyre, detailing the operations of part of the Third Division on the previous day near the head of the South Harbour. General Eyre closes his report with the following tribute to the services of some of the medical officers on that occasion: "I beg also to report the judicious arrangements of the medical department on this occasion, and especially to thank Assistant-Surgeon John Gibbons, 44th Regiment, and Assistant-Surgeon Reeve, 20th Regiment, for their zealous and humane exertions in the field, while exposed to a most galling fire." So seldom has a fair word been said for the medical department of the army, so much silent neglect has been shown by official authority—or, if notice has been called to it, so often has it been for the purpose of acknowledgment and blame—that a mention of praise to any of its members attracts particular attention. Yet instances of courage and coolness under galling fire, such as are referred to above, have been of frequent occurrence, especially among those of the assistant-surgeons whose duties have called them to be in the trenches before the enemy. Assistant-Surgeon Gibbons, on a former occasion, was wounded in the leg by a piece of shell, but having had his leg bandaged, he refused, though in great pain, to go back to camp until his regular relief came, as there happened to be a great demand at the time for surgical assistance, and only two other assistants present. This was reported by the brigadier to the higher authorities, but no further notice was taken of the occurrence, so creditable to the assistant-surgeon, both as regarded his professional zeal and personal courage. When the attack was made against the Quarries, on the 7th of June, Assistant-Surgeon Worthington, of the 30th Regiment, went up with the attacking force, although he might have remained in a comparatively sheltered position in one of the trenches in rear. He remained there under the heavy fire, and during the subsequent struggles of the enemy to regain possession of the work, pursuing his professional duties; but no record was made of the circumstance, nor any notice beyond a passing remark at the time. When the new 8-gun advanced battery, in the left attack, was opened in the course of the bombardment, which began on the 9th of April last, and the guns of the Russians were turned on it by such numbers that the utmost gallantry and determination were required for any one to maintain his position, Assistant-Surgeon Taylor, who was in the work all the time, was the only officer whose name was not mentioned. Had the gallant conduct of Assistant-Surgeon Wilson at Inkermann, concurred in some divisions of the army, it is very probable that, instead of being noticed as he was by the Duke of Cambridge, he would have been put under arrest for exceeding his duty as a surgeon. And does not the manner in which this officer was rewarded well illustrate our boggling, short-sighted system? Dr. Wilson, who was present on the field of action as a surgeon, suddenly saw an urgent necessity for personal exercise of another kind, and succeeded, by the exercise of some well-timed gallantry, in effecting an important military object. The appropriate reward for such conduct was evidently an honourable mark of distinction in the shape of a C.B., or cross of merit, but because these decorations are not given to surgeons, or, if rarely given, are only given in those of the highest ranks, Dr. Wilson received instead, his promotion as a staff surgeon. Now, this promotion, which would have been most appropriate if he had distinguished himself by professional superiority, becomes absurd, and most unfair to those above whom he was promoted, when given for an act altogether unconnected with professional duty. Why, it is a direct encouragement for any young medical officer to seek promotion with the sword instead of by the means allotted to him, when he finds himself in action. I was talking on the subject of this officer's promotion with a French medical officer, who was absent simply for general attention to his duties, and after fifty "Mais, Monsieurs" on his part, and as many explanations on mine, he was quite lost in trying to comprehend our system.

The fact is, we have no system of promotion, and this is one great source of discontent in the medical department of the army. When evidence was taken on this subject some years ago before a committee of the House of Commons, the Director-General said that in the lower ranks promotion went by seniority, in the higher ranks by selection. The Director-General made the selection; he was the arbiter of each officer's rise and progress. He selected the station, east, west, north, or south, of each surgeon, according to his will and pleasure. There was no appeal. There was also another rule regarding promotion—that the senior on the station, when the vacancy might occur, should receive the vacant appointment. A double reason was given for this: first, to save expense in bringing medical officers from a distance—an apparent but not a real saving, as in the end the number of medical officers on the station must be completed to a certain standard; the second, that in unhealthy stations those most exposed should be most benefited when the opportunity occurred. As far as I have observed, however, this rule has been followed only when it suited the views of the authorities to follow it. Just as frequently—and there have been very striking instances since the present war broke out—officers have been taken away home or brought from distant colonies to fill vacancies which have occurred in the field. This rule has never applied to the other scientific branches of the service, as the Royal Engineers and Royal Artillery, who are promoted strictly by seniority. It is easy to show that our system, as called, of promotion is most specious and fallacy. The alleged promotion in the lower ranks by seniority is not carried out in practice—any *Army List* will prove this. The rule of promotion on station militates against it. This rule, too, is constantly thwarted. The probability of a vacancy occurring on a particular station is often known, for several months before it occurs, at the Director-General's office in London. Perhaps some one who has been long on the station is looking forward to getting the step whenever the vacancy may occur, but suddenly some one is sent a little senior to himself, and his hope is destroyed. In the higher ranks, selection at the will of a distance is the chief cause of the humiliating condition of the great body of the staff medical officers of the army. They know that their character, promotion, prospects, comfort, almost their lives, depend on the good word of an almost irresponsible head. They know that by standing well with him every thing is to be gained; that under his displeasure the worst is to be feared. Having now passed some years in the service and in various parts of the world and smoothered of what was passing around me, and having watched the career of not a few and heard many a man tell the history of his fortunes, my decided conviction is, that to get on in the profession of military surgery and medicine, the most essential qualifications are by no means those which we used to hear of at college lectures, but are comprised under two heads—never making difficulties, and always having interest. The latter is all-important. With interest at head-quarters I have seen an assistant-surgeon duly inspectors and staff surgeons, and, in spite of endless letters and reports declaring his idleness, indifference, and incompetency, removed at last from the station

on which he was serving abroad, only to be placed in the berth he was coveting and asking for in England. I have seen another assistant-surgeon, by means of interest, retain his place in the *Army List*, though habitual drunkenness incapacitated him for professional duties. He was put in charge of "apothecaries' stores. Here, in a fit of delirium tremens, he one morning, by means of a glass of prussic acid, rid himself of a burdensome life, and the service of a discreditable member. I could quote other examples. On the other hand, I have known special reports made by medical and other authorities respecting more worthy and diligent individuals, with an equally consistent result. Here and there I have seen exceptions in which professional or scientific attainments have led to their possessors being brought forward, but the examples have been wonderfully few. Submission and interest bent hollow all the science and professional skill in the world, and late events and present circumstances point to the truth of this statement as much as ever.

After the ordinary salutations on my first introduction to the surgeon of the regiment, to which I was initiated by a military parent, he asked me, in a very confidential and friendly way, and with a broad Scotch accent, "Wha's your agent?" Having depended up to that date, like most others in my position, on the agency of my parents in money matters, I was rather taken aback by the question. "An," he said, "I see you've not thought much about it; now take my advice as an experienced man—don't let Cox and Co., the regimental agents, draw your pay, but draw it yourself, through M'Gregor and Co.; you'll find it very useful in very many ways." I can hardly tell why I did not act upon the advice, excepting that I found Messrs. Cox and Co. had already adopted me in the regular way of business as soon as I was gazetted to the regiment, and some correspondence would be required to transfer the accounts. A few days afterwards I saw the goodness of the advice illustrated. The surgeon had gone to London for a few days on commanding officer's leave, when one morning I received a message from him by post, that he had ordered at his agent's that the Director-General would be down at —— next day, to inspect the hospitals. The same evening the surgeon arrived himself. The next day the Director-General came, and took us "quite by surprise" as he thought, and of course was delighted with the condition of everything. The hospital was in the most perfect order, for not even a stray spider, much less a cobweb, had been overlooked. And so I saw one advantage in having the son of the Director-General for an agent. But this was trifling compared with other advantages I have heard of. He would have been an unusually clever man who could have traced out the principles on which selections for the higher grades of the department were made. To penetrate the profundity of the diplomatic language employed in the reception-room of the Director-General was a hopeless case; the maxim of Talleyrand, that language was given as a means of concealing thoughts, had been studied too deeply and practised too often at the weekly levees. When bowed out, with the assurance, "depend upon it, Mr. ——, your claims will be considered"—one felt that beyond the fact of having for a few minutes reminded the medical Jupiter of your existence, you might as well have left the visit unpaid. An old story in the days of Queen Elizabeth's flexibility of reasoning to meet inopportune appeals. Two old friends met in the walk-known waiting-room at St. James's-place; one, well-tanned by the sun, had just returned from long service in Jamaica; the other had been some years in England. Each soon found out in conversation that the other had come to talk about his promotion. The name of the fresh-complexioned surgeon was first called. The Director-General heard his request, that as he stood nearly at the top of the list for promotion, he hoped he would not be overlooked when his turn came; and replied, "And was ye've come for promotion, Mr. ——; well, I am somewhat surprised, for ye've been enjoying yourself at home, in your native climate, wi' every luxury round you. Why, promotion's nae for the likes of ye—promotion's for the men who has been roasting in a tropical climate, undermining his constitution, risking his life among yellow fever, and shortening his days, perhaps, by liver disease or other disorders. But depend upon it, your claims will be considered, Mr. ——, when the time comes." Down he goes, and, though disappointed himself, in the warmth of his heart he recounts the interview to his friend, whom he looks upon as marked for promotion. By-and-bye, his turn also comes round to be ushered into the Director-General's presence. He tells his story with smiling confidence. But judge his surprise when he hears nearly the same words as his friend had already repeated to him in the anti-room. "And see ye're seeking promotion, Mr. ——; ye surprise me—why ye've been living quietly in one of the finest and cheapest stations in the world, with none of the trying vicissitudes of a northern climate, besides drawing a large colonial allowance; promotion's nae for the likes of ye; promotion's for the man who has been compelled to live in an expensive and heavily taxed place like England, where the difference of pay becomes a serious object. Nevertheless, when the time comes, your claims will not be overlooked, Mr. ——, you may depend upon that."

I have still much to say on the subject of the promotion of Army Surgeons, but this I will do in a second letter. A REGIMENTAL SURGEON.

Sanitary Condition of the Camps &c. before Sebastopol.

What is a much more serious consideration than all this, however, is that, with the best intentions in the world, cleanliness is impossible, and health consequently in great danger, in any place in which a body of men have been encamped for more than three or four days. In spite of orders, ordinances, and precaution, in hot weather, a camp is the most disgusting locality in the world. For variety of abominations I can compare the English and French camps before Sebastopol at this moment to nothing but a Turkish town, the French being far the worse of the two. Our "lively neighbours" have long enjoyed the reputation of being the dirtiest civilized people in the world, a circumstance which by no means detracts from their numerous good qualities, and certainly their soldiers maintain their reparation on this point, as well as their martial glory. Notwithstanding their much vaunted military organization their camp is a vast altar to Cloacina—the men apparently delighting in choosing for their acts of worship the first spot that presents itself, instead of being obliged, as the English soldiers are, to confine their devotions to the low sewer. Add to this a sprinkling of dead horses and bullocks, and cause a Crimean sun to rage on it for twelve mortal hours a day, and the result will be an odour of which you can only form an idea by a short visit to some respectable knacker's yard. From these remarks upon the French you must not suppose that the atmosphere breathed by the English is by any means savoury. By these, too, dead horses and bullocks are allowed to lie about in the sun, and their odour do also emit a wide-spread odour; but the nuisance is by no means so great, and greater attention is devoted to abate it. But no efforts can prevent the whole camp becoming a hotbed of pestilence during the summer months.

No man can breathe the exhalations of a cesspool week after week with impunity, and in addition to this the dead, both men and horses, but especially the latter, have been but lightly covered, and still contributes their quota to the contamination of the atmosphere. I would advise every one, however, who wants to form an idea of the various ways in which dirt can be accumulated, preserved, and made to give out the greatest variety of stinks (there is nothing sometimes like plain Saxon), to pay a visit to the English head quarters. I rode in there to post a letter the day after Lord Raglan's death, and I know not what it may be for those who were accustomed to it; but coming, as I did, from the fresh pure air of Baidar, I was obliged to compress my smelling organ while riding round the house to avoid the perfume—first, of incessant heaps of nondescript nastiness, such as old bones, old clothes, kitchen refuse; secondly, of numerous sheepskins, which by its small piles and farmer-and in the sun; thirdly, of large quantities of offal, mainly the entrails of slaughtered animals; fourthly, of a dead bullock; and lastly, of stable manure and of numerous small establishments described generally in the army under the name of the *vase*. The *tout ensemble* was abominable, and considering the smallness of the area in which all the above horrors were collected, close around the house, I must say that not only need poor Lord Raglan's death excite no surprise, but the wonder is that one of his staff has survived to accompany his remains to England. Use, of course, reconciles one to anything; persons I have mentioned this to tell me, "Oh, you should have seen it in winter!" but it would be well for every one here to remember that things which winter frosts and winds made to pass harmless, summer heats turn into deadly poison.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

[A portion of the following appeared in our Evening Edition yesterday.]

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, JULY 3.

The report that prevailed in camp that the Sardinians were returning from Chaila, and the Ottoman troops from the neighbourhood of Baidar, to the plain of Balaklava, has proved untrue. A part of the Sardinian force fell back in a direction towards Tchorgoun, for facility of obtaining water, but otherwise have not changed their position. The Ottomans still occupy the neighbourhood of Baidar. On account of several cases of cholera appearing among the men of the 10th Hussars, detached in that direction, a slight change was made in their position. Unfortunately, the disease has not quitted them completely, and it is not unlikely that another change in their encampment will have to be made. We do not hear speak of any immediate movement of the advanced troops. The French have a rumour that three more divisions are coming to join their army, under the command of General Baraguay D'Hilliers. If this rumour contain any truth, there may be an intention of deferring all further movement until the arrival of these reinforcements; for it is very generally asserted that, large as the Allied force is now, it is not yet adequate for the complete investment of Sebastopol and its outworks. A belief prevails that General Liders has joined the Russian force assembled near Khutor Mackenzie with two fresh divisions. The enemy is keeping a very active watch on our proceedings, as might be expected, and small bodies of Cossacks are observed in frequent movement along the hills, from the Inkermann mountain to Mackenzie's farm.

No important change has occurred in the siege operations. The Russian line-of-battle ships retain their position below the Karabelnaia suburb of the town.

Cases of cholera are still occurring in various parts of the camp.

A very considerable number of officers have left camp lately, either to go to England at the recommendation of medical boards, or for shorter periods, to the Bosphorus, or on board ship. It has been a subject of great surprise that the Sanitarium, which was commenced long ago, near the Monastery of St. George, has never been completed; and, judging from present appearances, it will continue to be a subject of surprise for another month or more. Some of the huts have been erected, but they are as yet destitute of bedsteads, and all other provisions for the reception of convalescents. The advantages of the position, and convenience for sea-bathing, prescribed to render this a very valuable addition to the sanitary resources of the army. Timely removal to this site, from the thickly-covered ground of the camps before Sebastopol, in many instances might have speedily restored health, and obviated the necessity of removal to a distance, and more lengthened periods of absence. But the summer is passing, and with it almost the only season when the Sanitarium can be of use to the convalescents for whom it is destined.

The following officers have quitted the Crimea for England during the last few days, in addition to the two lieutenant-generals commanding the Light and Second Divisions:—Lieutenant-Colonel Johnstone, 23rd Regiment; Major Peel, 7th Fusiliers; Major Villiers, 47th Regiment; Major Armstrong, 49th Regiment; Captains Cathbard, 49th Regiment; H. Massey, 19th Regiment; T. Maxwell, 34th Regiment; M. Pennefather, 30th Regiment; T. Wickham, 33rd Regiment; R. Le Marchant, 69th Regiment; Hon. C. Addington, 26th Regiment; Lieutenants T. Fox Eustace, 49th Regiment; C. Kenny, 95th Regiment; C. Mackenzie, 79th Regiment; J. Jones, 7th Fusiliers; Lord R. H. Browne, 7th Fusiliers; and Surgeon Tuson, 12th Lancers.

The weather has continued cool, with occasional showers. The springs now afford an abundant supply of water for all the necessities of the camp.

The following is a diary of occurrences during the last three days:—

June 30.—Lieutenant William Owen, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was mortally wounded last night in the trenches of the right attack. He was in one of the covered approaches before the Quarry work, when a shell from a cochorn mortar fell a short distance in front of the parapet and bounded over among the troops. It exploded almost immediately afterwards. From some cause Lieutenant Owen had not adopted the usual precaution of throwing himself to the ground, and a fragment struck him, as he was standing up, in the lower part of his body. Another officer of the same regiment, Lieutenant Blake, who at the time the shell dropped was standing between it and Lieutenant Owen, escaped by lying down, although so close to the deadly missile that he was scorched by the flame at the moment of its explosion. Lieutenant Owen died a few hours after being carried up to camp. He was very young, but had given promise of being a good officer, and his sudden death is much regretted in his regiment. He had only joined two months.

A heavy fire was kept up all day in the batteries on both sides. The Redan has been particularly active, and also a small mortar battery in the hollow between the Redan and Malakhoff hills. The Russian riflemen around the Malakhoff works have omitted no opportunity of firing at any object that may become visible in the advanced trenches, although the range is very long. They also seem to elevate their rifles from time to time, and fire with the chance of hitting some of the men whom they see to be working in the new approaches near the right brrax on Frenchman's hill, for occasionally the balls fall within the trench almost perpendicularly downwards.

The 12-gun battery on the north side, nearly opposite to Mount Sapone, and the small batteries beyond, commonly spoken of as the Cossack batteries, have kept up a very active fire against the French, Inkermann, and other redoubts east of the Careening Bay ravine. The enemy has opened a new six-gun battery on the north side, at a higher elevation, though more distant, than the 12-gun battery, which is on the verge of the cliff above the harbour. The six-gun work is more to the west, and is connected with the outer works of the large Star fort, near their south-eastern angle. The French have commenced a new work still nearer to the water of the south harbour than the small five-gun work which the Russians deserted the day after the capture of the Selinghinsk and Volhynia redoubts. It is on the extreme end of the spur forming the right side of the Careening port. It appears to be intended for a mortar battery, to act against the shipping. The enemy have been making special endeavours to interrupt the progress of this work, apparently under the impression that working parties were still within it. Cochorn shells have been thrown from the Russian batteries on the west side of the Careening port, and some of the guns on the north side have been directed against it. Our allies appear also to be preparing the Russian 5-gun work for use against the harbour, but there are no guns within yet.

Lieutenant Edmund Woodford, of the Second Battalion, Rifle Brigade, was wounded by a fragment of shell early in the afternoon, and died about three hours afterwards. He was lying, with Captain Pelham and Lieutenant Serwen of the same regiment, in a part of the advanced work of the right attack. They were in a group close together, when the fragment fell from above, the shell having burst high in the air. Lieutenant Woodford only was struck. He was carried up to camp, but the injury was too extensive for any hope to be held out of his life being saved. The casualties among the men have been more numerous than usual during the last twenty-four hours.

July 1. It has been decided that one of our new batteries, intended to act against the Russian shipping with long guns, has been placed in an isolated position. It will be available for use, however, as a mortar battery, and orders have been given that it should be converted into a work of that nature. We have lost two Lancaster guns to the French, for an advanced battery on the right of the Mamelon.

The Russians made a demonstration in force to-day on the north side of the Tchernaya. They came out in several very strong columns, and had both cavalry and artillery with the force. Having advanced a short distance from the broad opening, where the Khutor Mackenzie-road passes northwards under the east aspect of the Inkermann mountain, they deployed, and seemed to invite the French, who occupied the high ground south of the Tchernaya, to advance to the attack. The enemy was too guarded in his movements to leave the cover of his batteries on the Inkermann mountain, and no fighting ensued. Another battery has just been finished by the Russians, on the east end of the Inkermann mountain. It is higher up than the works protecting the apse, which inclines toward the Tchernaya valley, and seems to be intended to oppose any direct approach against the eastern face of the mountain, such as might be made by an attacking force coming by a circuitous route from Tchorgoun. There appears to be a space for one or two mortars in the centre, this part of the work being flanked on either side by embrasures for two guns.

There has been less firing, as compared with yesterday, in the siege batteries. The enemy has been most active against the French works on the right. On the left the batteries have been remarkably silent of late; it is rumoured that mining operations are going on actively.

July 2.—A very active shelling fire was kept up last night by the Russians in the supposed direction of our working parties. Our casualties were very few. During the day the fire has been very slack.

The Cavalry Division received notice two days ago to make preparations for a move. It was generally supposed that this force was about to join the Sardinian troops beyond Tchorgoun. To-day, however, a counter order has been received, and it is understood that no move will take place at present. The change of encampment which was proposed to take place, it is said, was for sanitary purposes; but certain considerations, more especially the circumstance of the regiments having lost in their present position, caused the arrangements to be altered.

The corpse of the late Commander-in-Chief of the army is to be carried to England on board the Caradoc. The steamer is to leave Kamiesch early on the morning of the 6th instant. The officers of Lord Raglan's personal staff do not join their respective regiments, but also proceed to England. A telegraphic communication was received yesterday evening from England in reference to the Field-Marshal's decease, and at an early hour this morning, the following despatch was published for the general information of the troops:

MORNING GENERAL ORDER.

Head Quarters before Sebastopol, July 3, 1855.

The Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces hastens to publish to the Army the following telegraphic despatch received last night from the Minister for War, dated June 30:

"I conveyed your sad intelligence to the Queen. Her Majesty received it with profound grief. Inform the Army that her Majesty has learnt, with the deepest sorrow, this great misfortune which has befallen the Army in the loss of its late Distinguished Commander-in-Chief.

"The country has been deprived of a brave and accomplished soldier, a true and devoted patriot, and an honourable and disinterested subject."—By order,

(Signed) W. L. PAKENHAM, Lt.-Col.,
Assist.-Adj.-General.

The arrangements for the transport of the bier containing Lord Raglan's mortal remains were published subsequently, and are given below:

The funeral procession of the late Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., will move from head quarters to Kazatch Bay at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3.

The Brigade of Guards will furnish a guard of honour of 100 men, with regimental colour at head quarters. Detachments of 50 men in review order, with one field officer, one captain, and one subaltern from each regiment, will line the road from the British to the French head-quarters.

The detachments from each division will be commanded by a brigadier-general.

Major-General Eyre, C.B., will be pleased to take command of the whole of the infantry.

The cavalry division will furnish guards of honour of two squadrons on the right and left of the line.

Two field batteries will be stationed as a guard of honour on the left of the line.

A salvo of 19 guns will be fired when the procession moves off.

The troops not on duty will be under arms at 4 p.m., and will remain in camp under the command of a brigadier-general of each division, with whom one major of brigade and one divisional staff officer, at least, will remain.

The troops and staff at Balaklava will remain at their posts.

The escort to Kazatch will consist of four squadrons of cavalry, one troop of Horse Artillery, and a field battery, the whole under the command of Lt.-Col. Dupuis, R.H.A., and of detachments of the allied forces who have offered to attend.

The mourners to take part in the procession will be:
Relations and friends of the late Field-Marshal.
Generals of Divisions with their Staffs.
Staff at head-quarters.
One officer from each regiment of Infantry and Cavalry, and from the Royal Engineers and Land Transport Corps; two from the Naval Brigade, Royal Marines, Medical and Commissariat Staff, and three from the Royal Artillery.

These officers will assemble at head-quarters at 3.30 p.m., and will receive instructions from Lieut.-Colonel Blake, commandant.

A public sale of the effects and horses of Lord Raglan took place to-day at head-quarters, and was attended by a large body of officers.

July 3.—The wind has been blowing in heavy squalls from the north and north-east, and violent tropical-like showers of rain have been falling during the night. The water is now flowing in rapid streams down the ravines.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, JULY 7.

No change has occurred in the general disposition of the troops, nor has any incident of peculiar interest in the siege operations taken place since the last mail. The Allies are busily occupied in perfecting their approaches against the Malakhoff Tower and Redan, particularly the former position. The enemy is engaged with equal activity in strengthening and adding to their defences. From the enormous number of gabions sent to be brought over, it is suspected that the Russians are also constructing some inner works of large size.

Rumours have been prevailing that the Malakhoff was to be attacked again shortly,—even the date has been named. From the state of our works, however, it would appear that some time must elapse—two or three weeks—before all the proposed batteries and approaches to be brought against it, and the shipping, can be completed. There has also been a talk that the French were to take the trench duties wholly, so as to set the British force free for taking the field, but this does not appear probable. The argument used to defend this supposed arrangement has been that, being already in possession of so great an extent of the attacks, both on the left and right, the French would not find the addition of the centre any serious tax upon the resources of the vast force they now possess in the field; while all chance of mistakes arising from a want of thorough and complete action in concert, would be avoided. It is not likely, however, that, having once undertaken a share in the great work, the British commander would consent to abandon it, even although, by operating in the field, his efforts would tend to the accomplishment of the same ultimate object. Various circumstances have occurred to lead to the supposition that part of the British force would shortly leave for more active campaigning; but nothing is known respecting the intended operation, or what troops are likely to move. All the British divisions of infantry, including the Guards and Highlanders, are now employed in the siege duties.

I enclose a brief diary of observation and occurrences in front since the last mail:—

JULY 3rd.—The event of to-day has been the funeral procession of the late Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, from the head-quarters house, to the "Caradoc," which was waiting at Kazatch Bay, to convey the mortal remains to England. There were many things which combined to render this ceremonial peculiarly impressive. The military rank of the deceased; the high position which he held, without any superior, among the armies in the field; the great events of the past year with which his name was so intimately associated; the recent incidents of the siege and the influence which, according to general belief, they exerted on his comparatively sudden and fatal illness; the esteem and regard which his personal character and amiable manners and demeanour excited among his friends and associates; the place of his death, within sight and hearing distance of the world-famed fortress, the reduction of which had so much occupied his thoughts and actions—all these things together engendered in the spectator a sense of oppression and deep regret, as the remains of the illustrious chief were borne away—his task unfinished, his great work left for others to complete. One could not help remembering how different a termination to Lord Raglan's career had been anticipated but a few short months before; how his friends had looked forward to his returning to his native land to receive still further honours and congratulations. The absence, too, from illness, of so many of the British generals who had served with him through the campaign, added to the effect; notwithstanding it was well known at the same time that the closing of the Field Marshal's course, brought abruptly to a stop by the will of inscrutable Providence, and the departure of his chief confidantes, would but constitute so many openings for other leaders to achieve distinction and greatness in the service of their country.

As a military spectacle the funeral *cortège* presented numerous features of striking magnificence. In many respects it contrasted favorably with the grand display which had accompanied the remains of the great chief, under whom Lord Raglan had himself so long served, to their last resting place in the metropolis of England. There was not the gorgeous

catafalque, with its ponderous ornaments, and long wreaths of laurel and cypress; but an ordinary gun-carriage formed an equally appropriate vehicle; and a small wreath of yellow immortelles placed on the coffin, which was covered with a black mortuary cloth, edged with a white border, told the same tale, but with more touching simplicity. There was not an equal variety of courtly costume, civil uniforms, and robes of state; but, instead, there were the bravest and picked troops of the armies of France, England, and Sardinia, and our foreign Allies appeared not in small groups but in large numbers. No closed carriages concealed the followers from view; A brilliant sun and lucid atmosphere gave additional splendour to the glittering arms and bright costumes of troops who formed the escort or attended as mourners, or who, in two long lines, traced the route of the procession from the head-quarters to Kazatch Bay.

The published arrangements for the funeral procession have been already forwarded. They were carried out as directed, and throughout were conducted with admirable order. The coffin left head-quarters at the time named, under a salute of 19 guns from a field-battery brought up for the occasion. The British troops lined the road on each side in double file, as far as the French head-quarters. From that point to the sea, a distance of six miles, our Allies lined the road in single file on both sides. The number of men on duty on this occasion must have been very great, more than could have been expected to be spared from the many operations in progress. General Pélissier and General La Marmora rode on the right of the coffin, his Highness Omer Pasha and General Simpson on the left. Omer Pasha was conspicuous by the magnificence of his uniform and decorations. On drawing near to Kazatch Bay, Kamiesch was on the right, and the men-of-war's boats were seen waiting with their oars "tossed," to carry the honoured freight to the steamer. The naval arrangements were simple and effective. For an easy disembarkation, the coffin, with the sword, hat, sash, and wreath still lying upon it, was lowered into a barge, and the barge was then slowly towed away to the steamer, which was lying in the harbour. The usual salute was fired from the ships. Half an hour after words the sun set, and at an early hour to-morrow, before another sun rises, the mortal remains of the late Commander-in-Chief will have left the Crimea, and be on their way to England.

There has not been much fire from the batteries to-day. The French are busily employed in strengthening their new works on the east of Careening Bay. The redoubt Blanche is becoming a formidable work. The embrasures of the small five gun battery at the extremity of the spur have been now turned, and the arrangements for its armament will shortly be completed. But still further in advance than this, and at a lower level, immediately overhanging the water of the Great Harbour, our allies have commenced a new work. The Russian 12-gun battery on the opposite side of the harbour has been keeping up a very constant fire, with a view to impede the progress of this work, which promises completely to prevent the Russian shipping again appearing near the Bay of Inkermann. The Russian batteries on the west side of Careening Bay have also been very constantly throwing shells in the direction of this and the other French works on the east side. The French have made a covert approach to the 5-gun battery. There was some when the Russians abandoned it on the 8th of June, they covered way to the Selinghinsk redoubt in front sufficient protection. It became necessary for our allies to throw up cover, to save themselves from the fire of the enemy's riflemen on the other side of Careening Bay, in approaching the work from their advanced works on the Careening Bay ravine. The trench secondly, in a slanting direction from the ravine up the side of the cliff, until it terminates in the work which extends completely across the spur of the ridge. The French have another approach on the right, proceeding directly from the Selinghinsk or White redoubt. A several communication between the Selinghinsk and Volhynia redoubts had been completed by the Russians just before they were captured by our allies.

Our new advanced batteries in the right attack are making rapid progress. It is anticipated by our engineers that their effect against the shipping lying off the Karabelnaia suburb will be very destructive.

The enemy has undertaken a work of great labour. During the last two nights his working parties have been actively engaged in filling up the old embrasures of the Korniloff bastion in front of the Malakhoff Tower, and also those of a considerable part of the Redan near the salient angle. A large quantity of earth has already been thrown up on the top of the gabions employed to block up the embrasures, and also upon the "merlons," the masses of solid earth between the embrasures. It is quite evident that a greater elevation is about to be given to the whole line of battery, so that a more dominant fire may be obtained from the Malakhoff against the Mamelon Vert, and from the Redan against our Quarry and other works on the right attack. To complete this operation great labour will also be required within the work. There is probably an abundant supply of timber still in the shipping yards, which can be turned to good account in the [redacted] taking.

The Russians are also seen to be busily occupied in adding to the outworks of the North Fort on the opposite side of the harbour. A new 6-gun battery has just been completed, which, though connected with the North Fort, is placed on a commanding knoll about half way between it and the cliff overhanging the Great Harbour. Two or three shots were fired from this work to-day, as if to try the range. They fell near the French advanced works on the right of the Mamelon Vert. The Russian working parties can be seen in considerable numbers returning toward sunset from the direction of the Star Fort, and marching toward the more distant camps. Every appearance tends to confirm the suspicion, that the newer encampments on the high ground above the harbour, and stretching along the line of hill to the right of the Star Fort, are those of the Russian ambulances. Although the greater number of the tents composing these camps are completely under view, and, with a good telescope an individual moving among them can be readily distinguished, there is never observed the movements, or constant ingress and egress, which characterise the ordinary encampments of troops. There can be but one other explanation of their remarkably deserted appearance; if they are not occupied by sick and wounded, they are in a great measure empty, and have been left standing for some purpose of deception.

There has been a cessation of the arrival of the immense convoys which used to be seen of carts conveying casks apparently of grain. The two huge pyramidal heaps which were collected below the Star Fort have disappeared; they have been removed, it is supposed, into some of the large storehouses which exist nearer to the water, but at no great distance from the spot where the heaps were first deposited. There are eight or nine stacks, but comparatively small in size, or bags placed in a row, on a level piece of ground north of the 12-gun battery. These sacks are much darker in colour than were those deposited in the pyramidal heaps, neither have they any cover or protection against the weather. It is presumed that these do not contain corn or other grain. Some of these have increased in size the last few days. Vast numbers of waggons conveying gabions come in daily. Fort Gasspear as they turn to reach the entrance of the Star Fort, but the greater part are brought toward the harbour to be transported to the south side. They are brought over in barges, and are piled to a great height above their sides. The barges are usually towed across by small rowing boats. They can be watched from the time of leaving the wharf on the opposite side until they arrive at the usual landing place in the Admiralty harbour. Sometimes they are brought to the dockyard creek, for works going on in the Karabelnaia suburb. But the quantities which arrive daily on the north side are so enormous that it is difficult to guess in what way they can be employed, unless some very extensive works are going on in the town or suburbs, which the outer line of fortifications conceals from view.

The increase in the size of the graveyard, just in rear of the 12-gun battery, on the verge of the opposite cliff, is becoming very remarkable. This cemetery is placed at no great distance from several of the large encampments of square tents, which have been supposed to be ambulance establishments. The part recently formed is readily discerned and distinguished from the older part of the cemetery. The former is composed of immense mounds of dark-coloured earth, at the eastern end of which can always be seen the opening of a large pit. The latter is made up of single graves, each bearing a small cross of black or white wood. The large mounds are without crosses. At one part of the recently formed cemetery is an enclosed grave of some pretension. Through the palings which bound it on each side can be seen two white objects, probably stone tablets, one at each end, and of different sizes. The recent part of the cemetery now occupies nearly half the extent of the older portion. Every morning a fatigue party of soldiers arrives at this grave-field, the men pile their arms, take off their coats, and set to work in forming one large pit or excavation. The same party appears to remain all day. Burials are frequent, and occur at all hours. The new part is extending up a gentle incline, and stretching in an easterly direction. At the western end a road passes, so that the cemetery could not be prolonged in that direction without interfering with it.

A severe casualty occurred this evening among some men belonging to the 2nd battalion of the Rifle Brigade. It was caused by the discharge of a single gun from the enemy, and perhaps this instance affords an example of the greatest number of injuries inflicted by such means during the siege. A body of men of this regiment were returning from the Quarry, and had arrived at part of a trench which for a short distance is exposed to an enfilading fire. The Russians must have observed them and fired. Some of the men said that only a round shot was discharged; others said that both a round shot and shell were discharged at the same moment. The missile, whatever its nature, took fatal effect, for no less than 15 men were killed and wounded. Two were killed on the spot, and three subsequently died from the effects of their wounds. Some of the injuries were comparatively trifling. The Russians also fired at a party of men belonging to one of the Highland regiments, who imprudently showed themselves on the open ground above the 21-gun battery, as they were returning from the trenches. Their object was merely to effect a short saving in distance, by returning in camp in a more direct line than that of the covered way, but this proceeding is highly reprehensible. It not only exposes the men themselves to needless risk, but also serves to point out to the enemy the time at which they had been relieved. The Russians fired two or three shots against the party, all of which ricochetted, after striking the ground, but no casualty occurred.

Lieutenant E. Rencoard James, of the Royal Engineers, was last night engaged with a working party in part of the quarries. The position was very exposed. The men were busy at their work, and Lieutenant James, leaving them, went forward towards the Russian works to reconnoitre. He did not return, but the men, being intent on their occupation, did not for a considerable time notice his absence. When at last it was observed, and the officer could not be found, it was surmised that he might perhaps have returned to camp on some account, and the Sappers came back without him. No tidings have been heard all day, and there is little doubt that he has been taken prisoner by some advanced Russian picket. A further search is to be made to-night, in case he has been unable to return in consequence of being wounded.

During last night there was rain of very great violence, and there were occasional showers this morning, but the weather cleared towards the afternoon, and the night is now fine and dry.

JULY 6.—To-day the enemy threw a great quantity of grape and shells in the supposed direction of our working parties last night. An active fire was kept up from the batteries, chiefly of shell, against the Redan and Malakhoff works.

The heightening of the parapets in front of the Malakhoff is progressing fast. The French covered approach, which is being advanced in the direction of the Malakhoff, also seems to have made a good start last night.

Nothing was discovered respecting Lieut. James, R.E., and little, if any, doubt exists respecting his being in the hands of the Russians.

A very sharp fire was maintained towards sunset from the batteries on both sides. The enemy does not exhibit any want of ammunition. The French works on the east of Careening Bay have been exposed to a frequent fire during the whole day from the guns on the north side, and from the Russian batteries on the west side of the port.

Major-General Codrington, who has been absent on account of ill-health, has sufficiently recovered to return to camp, and resume the duties of the command of the Light Division.

The day has been fine and dry.

JULY 7.—The usual firing against the working parties, and shelling on both sides, occurred during the night.

The fire has been chiefly directed against the works of our Allies in progress on the east side of Careening Bay. The 12-gun battery on the north side has kept up a persevering fire in this direction. Fort Constantine has also fired frequently from some mortars placed on the roof. The charge given must be very heavy, as the shells have to pass across the mouth of the harbour, and over the Alexander Fort and other works, to reach the French approaches against which the missiles are directed.

The transport of gabions, the arrival and departure of working parties near the out-works of the Star Fort, the frequent burials, and other movements on the north side, continue as previously noticed. A body of troops was observed to march from the entrenched camp on the heights north of Inkermann this morning; they moved in an easterly direction. No change in position is said to have occurred among the Sardinian troops in advance of Tchorgoun, or in the force occupying Baidar.

The day has been fine and clear. The temperature has again become very high, but has been moderated by a cool breeze from the north west.

JULY 8.—A sharp musketry fire occurred on the left about half-past eleven o'clock last night, but was of brief duration.

Captain Alexander Gordon, of the Royal Artillery, was killed yesterday evening in an advanced battery of the right attack. He came out from England in charge of troop-horses, and, after his arrival in the Crimea, asked permission to remain for a short time to do duty in the batteries. His request was acceded to; but his services being required at Woolwich, he was about to return in a few days. When his death occurred, he was just leaving the works. The enemy had been annoying one of our working parties, and a message was sent to Captain Gordon, to request him to open some guns upon the Russians, for the purpose of directing their fire towards his own battery. This was successfully accomplished. Suddenly Captain Gordon observed a large shell coming towards the spot where he and some of his men were, and he had barely time sufficient to warn the men to shelter themselves. He himself appears to have left a momentary hesitation as to the side of the traverse on which the missile was falling, and thus lost the opportunity of obtaining protection. While he was still standing up, the shell struck the side of the head, and he was killed instantaneously. The shell lodged near him and burst. No one else was injured; the men had thrown themselves on the ground, and were safely under cover of the traverse, immediately after receiving warning of their danger. Captain Gordon was a valuable officer, and had acted as adjutant at Woolwich.

The heat has been very intense, and the atmosphere close, all day. Heavy masses of dark clouds have been hovering over the mountains, and the roll of thunder has been heard occasionally. One or two slight showers of rain have fallen in camp.

JULY 7.—The fire from the batteries was particularly active during the early part of last night. As usual, it consisted chiefly of mortar-practice, excepting in front, where the working-parties were employed, and against whom grape, as well as shell, is constantly used.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, JULY 16.

The events of the past week have not been marked by any striking features. The French works destined to act against the shipping in the roadstead and the approaches against the Malakhoff have been steadily advancing. The new batteries in our position have also been making favourable progress. The enemy had maintained a very determined opposition to these advances, and, especially from the direction of the Redan, had kept up a constant discharge of shell and grape against our working parties. It was determined, therefore, to make the attempt of silencing some of the guns of the Redan, as well as of interrupting the works known to be in progress there; and on the 10th instant a tremendous fire was opened against it, and maintained nearly the whole day. The fire of the enemy against our working parties has been less active since that date, but it is doubtful whether any of the enemy's guns were injured. On the extreme left great tranquility has been preserved.

The general health of the troops engaged in the siege operations continues excellent. Dysentery and fevers are the prevailing diseases. Cholera appears almost to have entirely quitted the front of our position, although it still clings to some particular situations. The temperature has continued very high.

I subjoin a Diary of remarks, and also some observations of the more conspicuous objects near the Admiralty harbour, which may be of interest to readers at home.

JULY 7.—About six o'clock last evening a shell was observed to fall into one of the large three-

docker line-of-battle ships lying in the roadstead, off the entrance to the south, or Admiralty, harbour. The shell appeared to be of large size, and had evidently fallen through the upper deck. The event produced instant confusion. Several rockets were sent to be lowered, and almost at the same moment that this movement attracted attention, dense volumes of white smoke rolled out of the stern-ports, and out of some of the side-ports of the lower deck. This smoke continued to be evolved for upwards of two minutes, and it began to be surmised that the ship was on fire. The smoke gradually cleared, however, and no trace of injury remained to be seen. The shell had been thrown from a French battery near Quarantine Bay. A short time previous a shell had been observed to fall into the water a little distance in advance of the ship. Two three-deckers are lying near the position indicated above; the ship struck was moored nearest to the mouth of the Admiralty Harbour. It has not changed its position since, but this morning it has not hoisted either of the flags which are usually carried by the men-of-war ships in the harbour.

There has been a haze all day in the atmosphere, so that at the distance of the heights on the north side scarcely any object could be distinguished. So dense was the mist to the seaward that the sun was lost to view long before it reached the horizon.

The fire has not been very active in the batteries all day, but during the previous night a heavy fire was maintained against our working parties. Fort Constantine has continued to throw shells at intervals against the French works near Quarantine Bay, and the 12-gun battery on the north side opposite to Careening Bay has endeavoured to interrupt the French operations in that quarter. The most constant fire has been kept up by some guns on the proper right of Koreloff bastion against the advanced works of our allies at the foot of the Malakhoff hill. The French have constructed a large ambuscade in advance of their foremost approach. From its appearance, size, and position, it would appear as if this were destined to perform the same part against the Malakhoff works, that the mortar battery made by the French in their advanced parallel at the foot of the Mamelon vert, formerly performed against that position. No embrasures have yet been cut in the new parapet on the crest of the Malakhoff-hill, and, were their guns in position, they would hardly be depressed sufficiently to bear on this ambuscade. The enemy is, however, making strenuous efforts by discharging shell and grape, to impede the progress of this work.

Major Harrison, of the 63rd Regiment, was shot this evening while on his way to do duty as field officer of the trenches in the left attack. He was just entering the battery with the troops, Colonel Lindesay, of the same regiment, being by his side, when a chance round shot struck him in the side, and inflicted mortal wound. He had lately exchanged from leave of absence to England. His death is much regretted in the regiment.

July 8.—Lieutenant Gerald Graham, of the Royal Engineers, had a narrow escape last evening. He was on duty in the left attack. Some Sappers having reported to him that the fire was so hot against certain position where a working party had been posted as to have led them to withdraw the troops for a time, Lieutenant Graham went himself to inspect the place. He had no sooner arrived there, accompanied by one Sapper, than a shot struck the ground in front of him, scattering the loose stones with great force. Several of these fragments struck Lieutenant Graham in the face, and one piece inflicted a severe wound near one of his eyes. It was thought at first that the sight of this eye was destroyed; this has happily turned out not to be the case. It is stated that this is the only officer of engineers remaining with the army who accompanied it on its first arrival in Bulgaria, and who up to the accident just mentioned had escaped without injury or serious illness.

The fire from the Russian batteries was kept up all night with great determination. They employed, as usual, few balls to discover the position of our working parties, against whom the fire was chiefly directed. Large quantities of grape as well as shell were used. Our works are, however, progressing very satisfactorily. The ordinary amount of fire only has been maintained during the day-time. The temperature has been high, but it has been tempered by a pleasant breeze. Several convoys of waggons were observed to come to the north side. They all appeared to be conveying fascines and gabions, chiefly the latter.

Half-past 9.—A very active fusillade has just been heard in the direction of the Mamelon Vert. A few scattered shots preceded a general musketry fire, which, however, subsided after a period of ten or fifteen minutes. The sounds of bugles and the peculiar shout of the enemy were distinctly audible. A considerable number of shells were thrown from our own works, as well as from the French works east of Careening Bay ravine, immediately after the commencement of the attack, and the batteries on both sides are now firing with energy.

July 9.—The fire was very heavy all night, but the working parties escaped with comparatively few casualties.

The attack last night was made against the new French rifle pit, on the Malakhoff-hill. It is said that the enemy did not advance with their former confidence, and their approach was observed. Our allies were consequently fully on the alert, and the reception the enemy met with caused him to retire with precipitation. It is probable that the Russians suffered severely as they were going back from the discharge of shells which were poured in the direction of the Malakhoff works.

The heat has been very intense all day. For some hours the thermometer indicated 90 deg. Fahrenheit, in well-shaded double tents, where, the sides being raised, a free current of air was passing. Diarrhœa and dysenteric diseases are prevalent, as well as fevers. It is rare, however, to hear of deaths from these causes. The number of fresh cases of cholera in the camps in front has diminished very materially. The 13th Light Infantry, lately arrived, and at present occupying the ground formerly encamped upon by the 93rd Highlanders, near Kadikoi, are suffering severely from this disease; and it is said that the Ottomans near Baidar are also losing many soldiers from this cause. It has found two more victims among the officers at the British head-quarters—Mr. Calvert, Superintendent of Interpreters, and having charge of the secret service, and Colonel Vinot, of the French army, attached to the staff of the British commander-in-chief by the Emperor. The loss of Mr. Calvert will not easily be replaced. He had passed some years in the Crimea, in a situation which had brought him into frequent intercourse with the inhabitants and officials, was intimately acquainted with the habits, feelings, and language of the Tartar population, and was thus enabled to afford peculiarly valuable information on many topics. Colonel Vinot was highly respected for his many talents and accomplishments, and was personally a general favourite. He had not very long received his promotion. It may be remembered that Lieut.-Colonel Lagondie, who was attached as principal French commissioner at the English head-quarters, was taken prisoner the day before the battle of Alma. Since that date Colonel Vinot, then Major Vinot, and acting as second in the same capacity, has been fulfilling all the duties of this office. He is said to have discharged them with equal satisfaction to his own government as to the late commander-in-chief.

July 10.—A powerful fire was opened against the Redan at 3 a.m. this morning, from both the left and right British attacks, and was continued about nine hours. The Redan answered quickly and vigorously. Our practice was most excellent. Three of the most powerful mortars in the Greenhill attack were constantly discharged together, and the effect produced by the shells falling within the Redan at short distances from each other was strongly marked. They reached the ground almost at the same instant, and clouds of dust rose after their explosion. Frequently the shot from the Forsehman's-hill batteries were noticed to pass right through the embrasures of the Redan, ploughing up the cheeks of the openings as they passed along. Yet it is doubtful whether much damage was done to the enemy's guns. Often when our artillerymen had supposed that certain guns, from their continued silence, had been knocked over, these guns would suddenly appear in their embrasures, and open fire. Even late in the morning, after the fire had been renewed in the afternoon against the Redan, the guns appeared able to reply whenever it suited the purpose of the enemy that they should do so. It is fairly evident that the enemy possesses some means of speedily drawing the guns away from the embrasures and placing them under safe cover, where they can be loaded and kept ready for use, and afterwards of speedily replacing them in the embrasures. What kind of "blindage" is used cannot be distinguished. After a gun from the Redan had been fired the space in the embrasure was often observed to become vacant, and only re-occupied just before another discharge took place.

But though the guns may have remained for the most part unaltered, it was seen that the artillery men suffered severely. Behind the hollow between the Redan and Malakhoff hills part of a broad road is visible. This road emerges from behind the Redan hill, passes in front of the barrack and part of the dockyard wall, and is lost to view behind the

Malakhoff hill. Along this way men bearing stretchers and ambulance waggons were observed to pass and repass in several numbers. Nor could it be understood how the requisite number of men for working the guns could remain within the Redan and great loss not occur among them from the discharge of such an overpowering weight of metal.

The fire from our batteries against the Redan ceased about noon. It was resumed between 3 and 4 o'clock p.m., and prolonged till sunset. The object appeared to be to silence, if possible, the fire which for some nights past the Redan had kept up against our working parties. The guns of the enemy failed to do any execution against our batteries. In the course of the morning a 10-inch gun in the right attack burst, killing one sailor and wounding two others. It is remarkable that the Malakhoff batteries did not fire.

Three new embrasures were discovered this morning on the proper right of the Malakhoff works. They must have been opened during the night. The line of fire appears to be against our Quarrywork.

The quantity of gabions brought along the north side is marvellous, and it is difficult to imagine for what purposes so vast a quantity can be intended. Several convoys of them arrive daily. The crossing of boats between the two sides of the roadstead has been constant all day. The passenger steamer has had its steam up, but has not quitted its usual position within the admiralty harbour. The entrance to this harbour, sometimes called the South Port, is now the most busy part of the great inlet of the sea which forms the roadstead and harbour of Sebastopol. This is the place of rendezvous for the small steamers, for barges and boats of all dimensions coming to the south side of Sebastopol, as well as those leaving it for the north side. There is always an active movement here. Some time ago the Careening Port used to be thronged with boats. The reliefs and working parties from the other side which were destined for the works of the Malakhoff, Mamelon Vert, Redan, and other batteries covering the Karabelnaia, as well as for the redoubts east of Careening Bay, used to land there, that passage being much shorter, and the troops being free from danger, though not from observation, in the day time. Only the men intended for the works surrounding the citadel and town were then landed at the Admiralty harbour. All heavy materials were brought to this bay, either to be landed at the Dockyard creek, or at the mole near Fort Nicholas, for at Careening Bay the cliffs rise very abruptly from the water, and the ascent is steep and difficult. Before the observation was made across the roadstead from Cape Nicholas, boats used frequently to pass towards Artillery Bay; but since that appeared very few have been observed to go in that direction, although a considerable space has been left open to the north end, and apparently another opening, though comparatively small, at the south end also.

Moreover, between Careening Port and the opposite shore, the water was usually occupied by vessels of all sizes. The men-of-war steamers used to lie chiefly in this part of the roadstead. Since our allies have gained possession of the east side of the Careening Port and Ravine—thus combining the mastership of all the heights from thence to the Inkermann valley, and controlling the bay of Inkermann below—this has been changed, and the ships, steamers, and smaller boats, have been compelled to move further to the westward, or remain in the bays on the north side, where the greater width of the roadstead and protecting parties of land ensured security. The limit to the westward for the large ships is formed by the obstruction from Cape Nicholas, for although it is open for some distance on the north side, the passage is said to be only available for boats of small draught on account of the shallowness of the water. None of the larger vessels as yet have passed round in the direction; they are all lying off the Karabelnaia suburb, of still further off in the bays on the opposite side. At intervals along the barrier just mentioned there are openings, or small oblique channels, through which light towing boats can pass from either side. The situation of the sunk boom stretching across from the west side of Artillery Bay towards Fort Catherine is usually discernible without difficulty; even when the weather is perfectly calm a line of ripple is seen over it. Now and then, more especially lately, a barge has been noticed passing across on the east side of the boom, towed by rowing boats and seemingly carrying furniture, coming, no doubt, from Artillery Bay; but very few have been noticed, and the long distance round the Cape Nicholas obstruction has made the passage evidently very tedious. Thus the broad part of the roadstead included between this last-named barrier and the line of sunken vessels at the entrance—the positions of which are still indicated by portions of the topmasts standing above the water—is generally characterised by a still, lifeless appearance; and the water beyond, as far as the two allied steamers stationed on watch, is, of course, equally deserted, being commanded by the guns of Forts Constantine and Alexander on the one side, and those of the blockading steamers on the other. When the white flag has been hoisted by the bearer of those vessels, and another white flag is waving on the roof of Fort Constantine, two little boats may be just discerned struggling with the waves and rising on their crests; but at other times no trace of life is visible on the surface of this water. It forms a striking contrast with the busy crowded scene along the coast to Kamiesch, and in the bays with which this shore is indented.

There are two points of view from which the Admiralty Harbour can be best observed. One is on the left, near the French trenches, whence a good view of the entrance and part of the Dockyard Creek is observed; the other is from the upper part of the Victoria Redoubt hill, just above the Middle, or Karabelnaia, ravine. From this latter position a full view of the entrance of the harbour is also obtained, and for a short distance the shore on the left, or west, side, but very little can be seen of the Dockyard Creek. This is the more interesting of the two, for the principal landing-place is on the left side, and the movements of men and boats passing to and fro are readily observed. The line of vision extends obliquely across the deep dip between the Malakhoff and Redan Hills, over the greater part of the Admiralty buildings and Fort Nicholas. So much are these objects foreshortened, however, that the position of Fort Nicholas on the west side of the Admiralty Harbour, appears to be continuous with the higher ground on the east side on which the ranges of buildings connected with the Admiralty stand. The water of that part of the port which separates them cannot be seen. Hence the relative position of these objects is rendered very puzzling to casual observers, just as from the same cause, at first sight, our advanced trenches on the right of Frenchman's hill, appear to be almost in contact with the Russian buildings and a portion of the Dockyard wall, although a considerable space, not obvious to the spectators, intervenes.

Taking this point of view, then, the following objects about the Admiralty Harbour principally attract the attention. On the left the curved liner aspect of Fort Nicholas, with its long lines of arches, tier above tier, though distant between two and three miles, first catches the eye of the observer. Approaching nearer, the spacious and extensive buildings, known as the Admiralty, Barrack, and Hospital buildings are seen. The Redan hill, with its formidable armament, closes the picture on the side. On the right Fort Paul, seen in reverse, rises prominently above the line of earth-works raised along the slope on the proper right of the Malakhoff. Some of the line-of-battle ships are seen from that position; and the obstruction stretching out from Cape Nicholas, and the boom further on, are also before the spectator. Within the same scope appears on the opposite side of the roadstead, the north shore between Fort Constantine and the Star Fort; rather an uninteresting, because little frequented, part of the north heights. By a slight turn of position the whole of the north shore is exposed to view, so far as the Inkermann camps, with the exception of a comparatively small distance interrupted by the crest of the Malakhoff Hill.

Some of the objects above mentioned may hereafter assume a particular interest, and a few observations on their present appearance may be worth noting.

To begin with the building, which will probably first catch the notice of a spectator—Fort Nicholas. This is an enormous work, built of white stone, and, though possessing every indication of solidity, presents a graceful curved outline. It stands at the west entrance of the south harbour; a small mole, which juts out to a point, alone separates it from the water of the bay. The greater part of the Fort is looked into in reverse; but near the entrance to the harbour it curves round, and this curve is so far contrived that a portion of the front aspect is thus rendered visible. This portion exhibits a plain white face, marked by three tiers of openings, each tier being made more distinctly obvious by two lines—projections of the masonry, perhaps—the lower of which separates the basement from the middle tier, and the other, the middle from the upper tier. The openings alluded to do not seem to be for guns, they appear to be windows; and it is not improbable that this part of the fort is appropriated for residences, as its bearing is across the harbour, and into the dockyard creek, where it would hardly be thought possible for an enemy's ship to arrive. There are no guns on the roof here, so there are along all that part of the building which commands the

roadstead. Beyond this roadstead and just described, the inner aspect of the fort is alone visible. This consists of two wings and a slightly projecting centre, the whole presenting a gently curved outline, apparently following the general form of the land behind between the Admiralty and Artillery Harbours. The sur-wing is very well seen, as is also the centre, but the west wing is almost entirely concealed by buildings and trees. The chief features consist here of two long arcades, one above the other, which cease where the centre of the building projects, but are resumed and continued, as seen at intervals, where a few up-rising vistas and permit a view on the other side. The upper arcade has a particularly elegant appearance. The arches are pointed, and each separated from its neighbour by a stone pillar which rises to the roof. The arches of the lower arcade are more rounded, and have no pillars between them. At the floor of the upper arcade is a balustrade, which extends along its whole length. The corridor within is too much in shade for any object to be distinguished. Thirty two arches can be counted in each arcade of the east wing of the fort, but others are concealed from view by the rounded extremity of the work. Judging from the space occupied by each of the other arches, about ten would be thus contained. This, supposing the west wing to be of the same length as the east wing, would give eighty-four arches in each line of arcade. At no spot can any one of the arches of the lower tier be completely seen to its base, the view being intercepted by part of a wall and by the roof of the Admiralty building, but there is no indication of a third arcade, as might be expected to exist, to correspond with the three lines of openings in the end which is visible of the front aspect. The centre, between the two wings, comprises a three-sided projection of plain character, with three windows, or openings, one above the other, in each face. Over this, rising to a slight elevation above the roof of the building, is a square apartment, with a shelving roof. This has a large window in each face, and is constantly employed as an observatory. Signals from all parts of the harbour could be observed from this spot. Not unfrequently one or two persons walk out of it upon the roof of the fort, and seem to watch with interest the proceedings of the siege. The roof of the fort is only partially seen, but the line of guns, *en barbette*, along the edge which looks toward the roadstead is easily observed. What is seen of the roof is of a bright-red colour. The number of guns forming the armament of Fort Nicholas is usually said to be 192; and, from the number of guns in position on the roof, the length of the gallerie, and general sweep of the building, this statement does not appear likely to be exaggerated.

The mole before named, near Fort Nicholas, runs out in a point in a north-easterly direction, and slightly narrows the entrance to the harbour. Excepting just at the point, the back of this mole, though not high, is shelving and rather steep. Following this back a little distance up the harbour, until a part is reached just beyond the curved extremity of the fort, several paths or roads can be seen cut into it, descending here towards the water. Below is a large floating pier, on which can be constantly seen groups of persons either waiting for boats or who have just landed. The steamer usually employed in traversing the great harbour goes alongside to take up or deposit its passengers. Here is the general landing place for the south side; barges with troops, and persons in small rowing boats all seem to get ashore close to this spot. There is a constant movement of boats leaving or coming towards it. These boats can be observed, the number of their passengers almost counted, from the time they clear Fort Paul to the time they reach the landing place. A steamer is usually stationed, with steam up, a short distance off the floating pier. After leaving the pier and going up the back a broad road is reached. To the spectator's left this road passes towards the town, and is shortly concealed from observation by the large Admiralty building intervening; to the right, it passes by the end of Fort Nicholas, and becomes confluent with the higher part of the projecting mole. Here an object is seen, which appears to be a large capstan, and near to it heaps of varying sizes, probably of newly landed.

The very long and spacious structure known as the Admiralty building, which, though on the east side of the south harbour, has been observed to be the most conspicuous object on the spectator's side of Fort Nicholas, corresponds exactly in form, size, and arrangement of details with another structure, still nearer, known as the Barrack. They are parallel with each other, and appear like two wings of a vast connected building, enclosing a square area of considerable extent. This quadrangle is looked across diagonally, and in such a manner that little more than half of it can be seen, namely, that portion nearest to the Admiralty building. The Barrack building hides the remaining portion of the area, as well as the greater part of the third or west side, only the roof of which can be seen. The part of the enclosed area visible is triangular, and the east side of the whole square forms one side of this triangle. It is bounded by part of the Dockyard wall, which, passing beyond the Admiralty building, proceeds to the end of the point of land separating the south part from the Dockyard creek. This wall, however, springs from a lower level than that of the ground on which the Admiralty and Barrack buildings are placed, and does not rise sufficiently high to conceal the area within them. The ground of this area is observed to be occupied by numerous detached buildings of various forms and dimensions, built of the same kind of stone and roofed in the same manner as the great main structure, but not there rising to such a height as to obstruct the view from the windows of the middle story of the two wings which are under observation. One small structure alone has the same elevation as the principal building. This is in the centre of the enclosed area. It is a square tower of small dimensions, surmounted, nearly at the same height as the roof of the Admiralty building, by a dome of lead or zinc, above the centre of which rises a flagstaff. In the two faces which can be seen of the upper compartment, just below the dome, there are windows, and the whole appears like a place of observation, or a clock tower. No clock is to be seen, however, from this direction.

The Barrack and Admiralty buildings are built of white stone, are three stories in height, are characterised by a plain exterior, the long outline of which is broken only by projections at the centre and at each end. The architecture of the centre projection is slightly ornamented by four square pillars inserted into the wall, and surmounted by a triangular roof. The projections at the ends are relieved in a similar manner. Forty-seven lofty and broad windows can be counted in each story of the two buildings. They are in regular lines, and at equal distances, excepting the seven windows which are in the projecting part at the centre. The roofs are protected by metal, apparently zinc or lead.

The more distant Admiralty building appears to be uninjured. All the glass and framework have been removed from the barrack building, and the walls in many places exhibit striking evidences of the effects of shot. In some parts only the surface of the wall is broken, in others it is completely perforated. When the shot has happened to strike the wall near one of the open spaces intended for a window, a large piece has usually been knocked out. In one or two places the regular outline of the window opening has been so completely destroyed by this means, that the whole appears as if it had been battered in. There are several holes in the roof. A portion of the metal covering has been removed designedly. Some of the low buildings in the enclosed area are also seen to be injured from the descent of shells; others are still used, as indicated by smoke rising from the chimneys. At the east end of the barrack, between it and the dockyard wall, there is a spacious gateway. This opening communicates with the inner area and its buildings, and men on foot, occasionally women, and vehicles of various kinds are constantly passing in or out. As they emerge into the open space in front of the barrack building they become exposed to the effects of shot or shell which have been directed against the batteries connected with the Redan, and which have passed over. There is, therefore, a little increase of speed observed in the movements of passengers here, but often times men will stop and coolly survey all that is passing on Frenchman's hill, or in the direction of the Mamelon Vert. They cannot be seen from our advanced trenches, owing to a slight rise of ground between the two positions, or they would be within Minié range. Behind the mole, along which the vehicles and people just mentioned move, between it and the barrack building itself, the Russians not long since erected a six gun battery. It seems to be almost in contact with the barrack wall. Three of the guns are placed on a higher elevation than the remaining three. It has not been much used yet; it seems to be part of an inner line of defence.

In front of the barrack, but quite at its left or west end, can be seen a handsome stone building, occupying a large space of ground, but only two stories in height. The body of the building is placed at right angles to the direction of the line of barrack building just described, but at either end of

this main front there are two wings each of which has a parallel direction with the barrack. These wings are broad and spacious; thirteen windows extend along the sides on each story, and five at each end. Twenty-two windows can be counted along the body of the building. There are many neat outhouses attached. This building, which is said to have been used formerly as the Naval Hospital, is nearly destroyed; being more in rear of the Redan hill, and nearer than the barrack building, it has proportionably suffered. Immediately to the left of this there is a peculiar structure, a square tower-like building, surmounted by a conspicuously green dome and spire, with a bright gilt vane on the top. There are several little openings in the dome, with small projecting arched coverings, to keep out rain. Near at hand are two red-tiled guardhouse-looking buildings, each the counterpart of the other; they have been greatly injured, but yet preserve all their main features. No other buildings of note can be seen in this direction. The line of earthworks and batteries ascending the incline of the Redan hill, and the huge Redan itself, conceal the remainder of this part of the east side of the south port. Part of the shore rising up from the opposite side of the harbour can be seen, and a portion of the Woronzoff-road above it, just as it turns into the town. Slightly more to the right, looking over the barrack building already described, appears the chief part of the town itself; trees, houses, public buildings, and batteries, all mixed together. One of the most striking objects is the dome and small spire of the cathedral. This appears to spring from the west part of the large structure, of which the Barrack and Admiralty have been described as the two wings, for just below where the dome first appears to view can be discovered a slight trace of the roof of the building in the direction alluded to. The whole front of this part of the barracks can be seen from the left, near the French trenches. It is very similar in appearance to the wing already described. The spire of the cathedral is surrounded by a scaffolding, within which can be distinguished a place for an observatory.

It has been already mentioned that the chief object seen on the right of the entrance to the Admiralty Harbour is Fort Paul. This is a lofty, narrow, five-sided stone structure, rising from the point of the jutting tongue of land, called Cape Paul, which on one side is washed by the water of the roadstead, and on the other by that of the South Harbour. This building is also seen in reverse. Its interior aspect is completely exposed to view. There is a hexagonal, tower-like centre, from which two faces are extended, one on each side, at an obtuse angle, and these are subtended again by two flanks, so that the whole work has the character of an ordinary bastion. The two flanks are connected by a stone wall, and a broad gateway in this wall gives admittance to the enclosed yard within. The fort generally comprises a basement story, and two stories above; the centre tower, however, which is hexagonal in form, has three stories above the basement story, and is capped by a red-tiled roof. The place of the third story, on the summit of the two lateral faces and flanks is a paved bomb-proof roof, and here six guns are mounted *en barbette*, three on each side, bearing upon the roadstead. About a month ago some guns were moved from this position, but they have since been replaced by others.

Although the whole inner aspect of Fort Paul can be seen, and the tongue of land at the end of which it is built, some on one side the shore of Dockyard Creek, still no part of the dockyard, or creek itself, is visible from this point of view. The high ground of the Malakhoff hill, and the gradual incline from its summit towards the site of the barrack buildings, lie before and screen them from observation. Some little distance to the left of Fort Paul the upper part of some very lofty sheers rises above the earthworks on the slope of the Malakhoff hill, and indicates the position of the steering-dock. A part of the dockyard wall has already been alluded to as showing itself near the barrack building. Another part of this wall, at right angles to the former, can also be seen, but it quickly is lost to view as it disappears behind the rising ground of the Malakhoff.

The line-of-battle ships are lying some distance out in the roadstead. They appear with their broadsides towards Fort Paul and the Malakhoff defences. One three-decker is seen on the left, another on the right, of Fort Paul: a two-decker next comes into view, but part of it is lost under the slope of the Malakhoff. The topmasts of another two-decker are just visible above the hill itself, but none of the hull. Each of these ships hoists

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two flags; one white, with a dark blue diagonal cross, the other a red flag with a white cross at right angles, and this crossed again by the dark blue lines in a diagonal direction. This latter, at first sight, appears not unlike the British Union Jack. Communications by small boats between the ships, or from the ships to the shore, are frequent; flag signals are very rarely observed. The boats coming from the south side usually make for the south shore a short distance above Fort Paul. They become most directly visible after clearing the Fort, and are exposed to full view from that time until they reach the landing place above Fort Nicholas. Two steamers appear to be engaged in the transport duty between the two sides of the roadstead, one of them remains on the north side. The other is usually seen lying between Fort Paul and the sterling. Towards sunset the dark smoke from her funnel shows that her fires are being increased, and her more active duties about to begin. By careful observation, the pier near the south shore where the troops embark to cross to the south side can be watched from this point of view also. The same amount of bustle appears to be going on there as is noticed at the landing-place near Fort Nicholas.

Although the "Round Tower," and the hill on which it stood, have been so often described, a few notes of its actual appearance may be just now of interest. I need hardly mention there is not a tree nor a bush upon it. It is fully exposed to view in all its stony barrenness from base to summit, clothed and varied only by the earthworks dug out of its own substance. There is not sufficient verdure to give any part of it even a tinge of green. Its general brown hue is broken only by the loose stones scattered over its surface, by the white earth which has been dug up, or the black gabions helping to form parapets and covert ways. Where its base joins that of the Mamelon Vert, and both together suddenly fall precipitously to from a part of the right side of the middle ravine, there are rough jagged projections of grey weather-beaten limestone, and small caves, conspicuous from their dark shadows. The Russian riflemen used to have many a hiding place among these rocks and hollows, but the troops on Frenchman's hill are free from all risk from this position now. The earth of the parapets, and the soil generally of the proper right, our left, of the Malakhoff hill, as it descends gradually toward the low ground between the Redan hill and itself, are particularly dark, and a strong contrast is formed between the colour of this part of the hill and the white dockyard wall, barrack buildings, and white roads, just beyond. The line of earth works extending from the proper left of the hill towards the west side of Careening Bay exhibit the same colour.

The following objects present themselves to sight on sweeping the hill from its lowest part near the foot of the Mamelon Vert to its summit:—About 40 yards in advance from the part indicated is the French trench. The long line of dark colour marks its inner aspect very distinctly, the earth with which they are covered being much lighter in colour. This approach has been extended to the steep part of the hill overhanging the middle ravine: its other end is lost to view as it crosses the saddle to be continued on the right side of the Mamelon Vert. A second branch proceeding from the right and gradually ascending can be observed, but, from the foreshortening of the objects, it appears to be almost in contact with the former approach. About 40 or 50 yards in advance of the first approach our allies have thrown up a very large rifle pit; the second approach appears to be leading up to it. An interchange of rifle shots is going on between the French marksmen in these trenches and the Russian riflemen above. The enemy is also seeking by a heavy discharge of shot and shell, from some guns on the right of the Korniloff bastion, to injure the new works as much as possible. Near to the rifle pit just named is an imperfect trench, which for a long time past has stretched across the Malakhoff hill without being made use of. It appeared to be a work of defence commenced before the Mamelon Vert was occupied by the Russians and abandoned as useless when the Kamschatka redoubt was accomplished. The French hold their ground for a long time under this cover when driven back on the 18th of June. They will no doubt again turn it to account now. Above this, as the hill is ascended, there is little worthy of note, until a girdle of loose earth is observed at no great distance from the works crowning the summit. Here is the first serious obstruction, the abattis. The strength and intricacy of this impediment cannot be estimated at this distance, for it appears only as a dark slight hedge in the bank of loose earth. The grey broken limestone appears heaped beyond this hedge, and then, after careful examination, a defined line of

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from the Mamelon of page 154

shadow is discovered. This is formed by the interception of the various lines and shadows on the outer slope of the parapet above, and this line points out the site of the ditch. As the earth ascends above, a double line of gabions, end upon end, mixed in parts with sandbags, is observed. This line, which is strongly marked, exhibits the position of the embrasures lately filled up, and the former altitude of the parapets of the Kornilieff Bastion. Above this gabion stratum there is a new parapet of fresh earth, which appears to be massive and broad. More sandbags and gabions are lying about the top of this parapet. No embrasures are yet opened here. Towards the left of the work, a person who had seen it before this new parapet was made might discover an object which looks like the shapeless top of a heap of stones, but is really the ruin of the Malakhoff tower. A stranger would fail to distinguish it from the parapet of similar colour, above which it rises scarcely high enough to attract attention. To the left of this ruin the flag-post which was so conspicuous on the 18th of June is still remaining.

Lines of earth-works extend down the slope of the Malakhoff hill, on its proper right, towards the works on the Redan hill, and also on its proper left to join with the works terminating at the west side of Careening Bay. These, especially the latter, have been greatly increased and strengthened of late, and on each side new embrasures have been opened.

Such are the visible defences of this position; what others there are behind—what are buried in the ground, or otherwise concealed—remain to be discovered by experience. Our engineers say that with the advantages of position lately gained, and the regular approaches now in progress, whatever the nature of the defensive works, their destruction will be easily effected, and the capture of the hill ensured; but those who remember the aspect of this same hill at the end of September, 1854, when its only defence was a tall isolated white tower, and who recall how lightly were regarded the labours of the busy swarm of Russians as they built without interruption the earth batteries which have hitherto proved so persistent and destructive, may be permitted to doubt the facility talked of. No one doubts that this important position is to be, and will be, taken; but as far as appearances can be depended upon, notwithstanding an acknowledged superiority of fire and other advantages, this will not be accomplished without a severe struggle and further sacrifice.

July 11.—One result of the fire opened against the Redan yesterday appears to have been a considerable diminution in the degree of opposition made by its guns against our advanced works, and the supposed site of operations in progress by our working parties. The fire was less vigorous than it had been for many nights previously. The enemy made frequent use of fireballs, as if there were some suspicion that the fire of the daytime was intended to be preliminary to an attack at night.

Captain Rosschamp Maunsell, of the 30th Regiment, is reported killed last night. He was on duty in the trenches of the left attack.

About 10 p.m., a fire broke out in the town, which threw a bright glare for a wide distance round. It appeared to be near the ravine, at the head of the south harbour, and was very probably an intentional destruction of some of the houses of the suburbs which were in the way of the Russian works.

The fire in the batteries has been very slack all day. The weather has continued oppressively hot. It appears strange that at this advanced period of the hot season, the issue of summer clothing to the troops is not yet completed. In the Light Division the issue was only commenced within a week past, and as yet none but summer trousers only have been given out to the men. It is stated that the suits will be completed within a short time, but two months ago they might have been distributed with advantage. The soldiers who have lately joined have brought their cax-tus dress with them, and all the men who are wearing it describe it to be an easy and cool attire, especially when on fatigue duty. Time now infini

(continued on page 153.)

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

THE RUSSIAN SORTIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

[The following appeared in our Evening Edition of yesterday:]

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, July 16.

The enemy made a sortie against the advancing sap of our allies on the Malakhoff Hill on the night of the 14th and 15th instant. The attack was preceded by the usual characteristic yell of the Russians, but this cry was only raised at the moment of coming upon the troops covering the working parties. The night was dark, and a high wind was blowing; and to these circumstances it was owing that the approach of the enemy was not previously ascertained. The alarm was sufficiently loud to be heard at some of the pickets in front of the camp, and appeared to proceed from a large body of troops. A sharp fire of musketry was seen to last about half an hour, and then subsided; about an hour afterwards, another fusillade was noticed in the same direction, but speedily terminated.

The explanation given by the French is, that the enemy came suddenly and in great force upon the working parties before the latter had time to make the necessary arrangements to meet the attack. Hence some confusion ensued at first, and the French, not without a severe struggle, however, had to retire to the next covert way. At the time of the sortie our Allies were connecting some small embrasures which they had thrown up in a line in front of their advanced trench. These being joined together, and a communication established with the trench behind, the third branch of the zigzag advancing up the Malakhoff-hill would be completed. The object of the Russians was to arrest the progress of this work, and destroy what had been already done.

As soon, therefore, as the French had retired, the enemy commenced levelling the parapets, and filling up the trench. In the mean time the French, being joined by their reserves, formed again for the attack, and at a given signal rushed suddenly upon the Russians. The latter were taken unawares. A considerable number had laid aside their arms and accoutrements and were busily engaged in shovelling down the parapets. After firing one volley, the French charged with the bayonet, and a precipitate retreat of the Russians followed. A large quantity of arms and appointments were left in the hands of the French.

The commencement of the attack occurred between one and two o'clock, a.m. The enemy did not attempt to renew it. In the course of the night the French not only repaired the mischief done by the enemy, but extended the trench considerably. The Russian loss is stated to be very severe, compared with that of the French, numbers having fallen in the second charge. One officer and several men were taken prisoners. The French loss in killed is reported as an officer and thirty men. The number wounded could not be ascertained at the time the above information was received.

The following day the Russians showed a flag of truce above the Kornilieff Bastion, but the French did not reply to it. It is surmised that the French preferred burying the dead of both nations themselves, rather than again give the enemy the opportunity of advance to their defences without interruption. The flag of truce was responded to by the English batteries bearing on the Malakoff, until it was perceived that the French did not hoist a corresponding token of armistice, when it was again struck.

The French marine battery, just above the level of the water of the roadstead to the east of Careening Bay, is now said to be fully armed. It perfectly commands that part of the great harbour near the bay mentioned. This is a most important acquisition, for it was to this part that the enemy's steamers usually ran, for the purpose of firing upon the east side of the Mamelon and its neighbourhood. The large opening in the cliffs where the Careening Bay ravine terminates, gave a full opportunity of observation being made from that part of the harbour, and for aim being taken with tolerable precision.

Our sap toward the Redan progresses gradually.

Our distance is but little more than two hundred yards from the salient angle. The great depth of the trench necessary for the security of the working parties, and other precautions rendered imperative by the closeness to the enemy's guns and the severe flanking fire to which the ground is exposed, render this operation very slow. The enemy makes frequent use of coehorn mortars from the Redan to annoy our working parties in the new approaches. The Russian trench connected with the Quarries has been much strengthened, and is now capable of securely covering a very large body of men.

The camp was visited to-day (16th) by very heavy storms of thunder and lightning. Rain has fallen abundantly. Black masses of clouds had been hanging over the distant mountains for several hours previously, and the distant roll of the thunder was heard incessantly. A good deal of sickness prevails among the officers, but not generally of a severe character. The French officer sent to replace Colonel Vaux, who died lately of cholera, as commissioner at the British head-quarters, has been already compelled to relinquish his duties on account of illness, and Colonel Steele, who throughout the campaign acted as military secretary to Lord Raglan, has left from the same cause. Although the hospital at the monastery has not been completed yet, several invalid officers have been permitted to go to that neighbourhood for change of air.

Although it may appear early, past experience proves that even now it is not too soon to provide for the necessities of the coming winter. A very large proportion of the men are without hut accommodation. Very few officers have been able to procure huts; on the average there certainly are not two officers' huts per regiment. Hence, in the case of wounded officers of some regiments temporary protection has been obtained for them in the huts which had been occupied by the soldiers. There are no huts, officers' or men's, remaining in the camp. This deficiency is accounted for by the fact that many of the huts have been applied to purposes for which they were not intended, as depositaries for stores and other uses; but more especially the establishment of General Hospitals and Sanatoria in the Crimea, which had not been originally contemplated, has absorbed a great number.

July 17.

About 11 o'clock last night, while the batteries were in a state of temporary repose, the stillness was suddenly broken by loud shouting and bugle sounds in the direction of the Malakhoff. It was just the night for making a sortie, and the Russians had evidently taken advantage of it to make one on a large scale. The shouting was plainly heard all over the neighbouring camps, but was very soon drowned in the hurricane of shot and shells, and the rattle of the concentrated fusillade which followed. For some time previous to the occurrence of the sortie the air had been perfectly still; the storm which had prevailed the greater part of the day had subsided; the sky was covered with clouds, no stars were visible, a small misty rain was falling, and everything around was involved in darkness. There had been a very severe fire on both sides almost except, and for some little time afterwards, but subsequently it gradually declined as if by mutual consent. No sooner were the shouts of the attacking force heard, and the rattle of musketry and notes of the bugles which followed immediately, than the whole aspect of the site of the hostile operations was changed. The air and sky became alive with noise and flashes of light rivalling the effects of the thunderstorm lately rolling among the mountains. From our left and right attacks, and from the batteries of the French as far as the east side of Careening Bay, a continuous shower of shells was kept up. Nor were the Russian batteries inactive: not only their lines from the south harbour to the west side of Careening Bay kept up a constant fire, but also the old batteries on the north side, and those at Inkermann. A great number of fireballs were used near the Malakhoff. The sky was illuminated by the combination of the flame of these various sources, and by the flashes from the guns or bursting shells; and as the lights of the bursting fuses rose and fell in graceful curves, the whole presented the appearance of some grand feu d'artifice.

The attack lasted about twenty minutes, though dropping shots of musketry, and the occasional discharge of projectiles from the batteries continued for nearly an hour. The particulars of the sortie are not yet known, but there is no doubt that the enemy, though probably in unusual force, found our allies fully prepared to receive them. The condition of the sky at was to more favourable for an attack than it was calculated to keep the parapet sentries and guards of the trenches on the alert.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

[A portion of the following appeared in our Evening Edition yesterday:]

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, July 20.

The new approaches continue to make satisfactory progress, although on our side the advance made is not so obvious to observation as that made by our Allies. Their works seem, indeed, when observed from certain points of view, to be almost in contact with the abattis of the Malakhoff-hill. The actual distance between them is probably not more than eighty or one hundred yards. They have carried their trenches forward with remarkable determination and perseverance, notwithstanding the heavy direct fire of shell, grape, and musketry from the Kornilieff bastion above, and an equally severe flanking fire from the batteries on either side. The French works carried forward on the right, towards the line of Russian batteries extending from the Malakhoff-hill to the west side of Careening harbour, though occupying a vast extent of ground, appear in a very secure and complete state.

The progress of the sap towards the Redan has been stopped for some days past, but in the meantime great efforts have been made to render the works already advanced both more commodious and more secure. The necessity of this provision will be rendered apparent whenever the day may arrive for large bodies of troops to be assembled in the extreme front preparatory to going forward to the assault. It has been already described that when the Quarry work was taken, several trenches were found to be connected with it, two of which extended completely across the lower part of Frenchman's-hill to be connected with a covered approach to the Mamelon Vert. The nearest to our works of these two Russian trenches became our foremost, or third parallel, in the right attack. Some call it the fourth parallel, reckoning the line of batteries between the 21-gun battery and our old advanced work as a second parallel, and the advanced work itself as the third parallel. This line of batteries and the old advanced work were by many others reckoned together as forming only one parallel, and by these the nearest Russian trench, having been properly converted and strengthened, was looked upon as our third parallel. The more distant Russian trench had a very considerable curve given to its direction, the convexity being on the Russian side. This not only provided more free space and ease of movement for the enemy, but gave them also the advantage of a converging fire, in case at any time they should be called upon to resist an attack in this direction. Our approaches towards the Redan have been carried so far in advance of the Quarry Battery, that the general line of direction of the Russian trench just described, has been left considerably behind; and it became necessary, not only for greater security, but also for other important purposes, to construct a commodious covered approach in front of the Russian trench, and with such a direction that it might be connected with the French works advancing up the Malakhoff-hill. This has been completed as far as the ravine dividing our right attack from the ascent leading to the Malakhoff. This work, which is solid and spacious, has its concavity turned towards the Russian works extended from the proper left of the Redan.

The enemy has not made any sortie of a serious nature since the night between the 16th and 17th inst. They probably suffered very severely on that occasion, for they are reported to have advanced in very considerable force, and the discharge of shells and other projectiles in the direction along which they must have retired, was terrific. Their reserves also could hardly have escaped from the incessant shower which was kept up during the attack itself. Although the contest was hotly maintained for some time, either from the advantage of position or some such cause, our Allies do not appear to have suffered so much as might have been expected on the occasion.

Our casualties, both among men and officers, during the past week, have been less numerous than usual. Among the latter, however, the death of Captain Rowland Fraser, of the 42nd Highlanders, has to be recorded. He was unfortunately killed by

a regiment of shell on the night of the 16th instant, while on duty in the right attack. The shell struck him in the body, and his death followed almost immediately afterwards.

Some new corporals have lately arrived from England, and two or three experiments were made in the 21-gun battery of Frenchman's hill, to ascertain if these would sustain the force necessary to project them to the required distance better than those which had previously failed under the same circumstances. It was found they were not equal to resist the shock of the explosive power to which they were subjected: the comparatively thin iron case, weakened by its several apertures, split and burst into pieces close to the mortar's mouth. It has been suggested that a deep wad of common tow, placed between the charge and the projectile, would sufficiently break the force of the concussion, and prevent the destruction of the carcase.

Among the officers who have lately left for England, at the recommendation of Medical Boards, is Commissary-General Filder, C.B. He is succeeded by Commissary-General Thomas Ramsay, who now has charge of this department.

A change has been made in the arrangement of the Engineer Parks. Hitherto there have been two, one on the right, and, performing the duties of the right attack, the other on the left for those of the left attack. The Engineers and Sappers have now been removed from the right altogether, and have joined those near the third division, in rear of the left attack. All the stores and workshops are also to be transferred to the Sappers' yard near the left attack. The change has been made, it is stated, in great measure, on account of the insalubrity of the old locality of the right Engineers' depôt, which was just above a part of the Careening Bay ravine. Moreover, it was rather out of the way, being considerably to the right of our right attack; its locality having been fixed upon when we occupied the heights in front alone taken by our Allies. The Sappers had taken particular pains in rendering their depôt conspicuous for neatness and order. They had formed a temporary church of siege materials, which now, of course, have to be removed; and their grass-yard was a model of care and attention, each grave being turfed, many having neatly chisell-d and inscribed headstones, and the whole being enclosed by a stone wall sufficient to protect the area within from observation. The new position of the Engineers' camp will not only be more central, but the communication with the railway, which has now been brought close to the front, will be more easy.

Major-General Markham, C.B., has arrived, and has been assigned, in general orders, the command of the Second Division.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, June 25

The short period which has elapsed since the mail left on the 21st instant, has not been marked by any important event connected with the siege operations. The French works have been steadily advancing against the Malakhoff position, the fire of continued and very severe opposition both by day and night. Frequent discharges of grape have been directed against the head of the sap, and grenades and cohorn shells have been thrown abundantly. At intervals the Russians fire a volley of musketry not only from the bastion in front, but also from the flanks and various concealed places. It would seem as if these volleys were discharged at random in the direction of the French trenches on the mere chance of hitting some of the men engaged among the working parties. It requires no little courage, as well as use to the work, to be able to carry it on vigorously in the face of such impediments, more especially when at night a sortie may be made by the enemy at any moment. Although the French have necessarily suffered from the fire directed against them, their daily numbers of casualties are by no means so great as might be anticipated.

Our new batteries are completed and armed. The principal battery, occupying a very advanced position on the right, and in front of Frenchman's hill, is fitted with a most powerful armament, a considerable proportion of which consists of land and sea-service 13-inch mortars. This is more especially to act, it is said, and disposition renders the statement probable, against the line-of-battle ships which still retain their threatening attitude, broadside toward the Karabel nais suburb. It is remarkable that neither the three-deckers, nor the two-deckers, have yet been observed to discharge a shot or shell against our works: this duty hitherto has been confined hitherto to the men-of-war steamers. The largest of the ships, which is seen lying out to our left of Fort Paul, appears to be partly careened over, and it would appear as if the might easily acquire elevation enough to try her range over the low ground about the south harbour and Dockyard Creek. The distance at which she is now anchored appears to be about three thousand yards from the sloping line of the Malakhoff hill as its side dips towards the Barrack buildings, but it is difficult to estimate this with accuracy while she is lying out in the roadstead. The report has been so industriously circulated in camp, of the enemy having been necessitated to take the guns out of their vessels for use in the land batteries, that their constant silence may be a ruse to invite credence to this very improbable story, until, having gained possession and effected our lodgements on the Malakhoff and other commanding positions, we should receive a more authentic account of their power and armament. Not only deserters, but many of the Russian prisoners, have stated these ships were dismasted, and nearly all the guns found in the Russian redoubts on the east side of Careening Bay were ships' guns: it is also asserted that when the ships were hastily sunk at the mouth of the harbour after the battle of the Alma, their guns were sunk with them. These statements may be partly true. The lower-deck guns, and any others, which could only be taken out with much labour and loss of time, are most probably still in the sunken ships. So in the ships still afloat, the guns only on one side could be called into requisition against our approaches; the guns on the opposite side might be removed for use on land without any detriment to the service on which the ships, while pent up in the harbour, could be employed. But it is scarcely credible that the enemy would totally disarm those floating batteries, which may yet, if other circumstances do not arise to prevent this from occurring, be turned to an important account against us when we have gained possession of the south side of the roadstead.

During the last three or four days a rumour has prevailed in camp that the new French and English batteries destined to act against the shipping would open immediately. This morning was named as one of the dates on which the fire was to be opened, but the event proved the report to be without foundation. No doubt the undertaking will not be long delayed; the preparations sufficiently show that, if not destroyed, the ships will at least be driven from their present position before the next assault is made against the Malakhoff and Redan works. There is a story that a sailor has volunteered to start from Careening Bay on the first favourable opportunity, and, single-handed, to destroy each ship successively. The source that he is in possession of a secret method by which he can move along beneath the surface of the water and breathe as easily as if he were in a diving apparatus supplied with air by a pump, and that he can carry with him an explosive machine of sufficient power to drive a hole through the bottom of the largest ship. All this may end in smoke, as so many other assertions of possessing secret powers of destruction appear to have ended. A few afternoons since a small skiff, fitted at its sides with what appeared to be not unlike a life-boat apparatus, was carried down by the French towards Careening Bay, and perhaps this gave some colouring of truth to the story. Besides, the sailor gave a proof on the night of the 17th instant that at any rate he was clever enough to approach a ship undetected, notwithstanding a very careful guard being established to mark his coming. As a proof of still further ability, he announced to the officers of her Majesty's ship London that he would come in the course of that night and chalk up the name of the ship on her side, just above the water-mark, do what they might to prevent him. The challenge was accepted, double sentries were posted, and some volunteers among the officers kept a look-out, but no one was observed to come near, and all on board were convinced that no one had come near the vessel. Daylight, however, showed the letters conspicuously chalked on the ship's side, as the sailor had said they would be. It has been suggested that the means by which his feat was accomplished was an atmospheric boat, capable of being guided when sunk beneath the surface of the water, and supplied with a reserve of air enough to last a given time for the support of its adventurous owner. It is stated that he could not have swam alongside without being observed.

Our new parallel in advance of the Russian trenches connected with the Quarry Battery and works her been completed; it will form a very extensive place of arms whenever a gathering of troops may be necessary in that direction prior to another assault. As idea has been gaining ground that next time a combined English and French attack will be made against the Malakhoff hill. It is said that from the command which it exercises over the site of the Redan this latter work must speedily yield after the capture of the former, and that all that will be required will be to keep its guns in check, which can be easily done from our superiority of fire, during the assault on the Malakhoff. This is only surmise; the plans of the allied commanders are kept, as they ought to be until the moment of action, a profound secret.

A small magazine belonging to our allies, in one of their works on the left, was exploded on the afternoon of the 22nd instant.

Shortly before ten o'clock on the evening of the same day the camp was suddenly roused by a very heavy fire of musketry on the right. It was quickly followed by the usual accompaniment of a discharge of shot and shell from the hostile batteries on both sides. A tremendous fire ensued; the air seemed to be filled with shells, rising and falling in every conceivable direction. On the part of the Russians, all the batteries on the north side opened, from the works on the Inkermann mountain over the Tchernaya valley round to the 12-gun battery opposite to Careening Bay, as well as the usual lines round the Karabelnais suburb. The French and English batteries actively responded. It was not an evening on which a sortie might have been looked for. The moon, which was in its first quarter, was shining brightly and clearly, and the sky, entirely free from clouds, was brilliant with stars. However, the fire was continued so obstinately for nearly half an hour, that it began to be suspected something more serious than a mere sortie might be intended, and some of the French and English regiments in front were held in readiness to move forward. The musketry then suddenly ceased, without any such aid being called into requisition, and the commanding gradually subsided into the usual fire from the batteries connected with the siege operations in actual progress. It appears that on this occasion the sortie was made against some ambuscades thrown up by our allies in front of their advanced works on the right of the Mamelon Vert. These ambuscades were chiefly intended to carry a fire against the Russian artillerymen in the Redan near the point on the west side of Careening Bay. The enemy was driven back without gaining possession of the ambuscades. It is said that the Russians suffered severely as they were retiring, while the casualties among the French were very few. We had five men wounded in the right attack, from fragments of shells, two only being wounded very severely.

For the last ten days it has been currently mentioned in the camp, that General Simpson's appointment was only necessary, and various commanders-in-chief were named. This point was decided by the publication of the following order of the day:

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters before Sebastopol, July 21, 1855.

Lieutenant-General Simpson announces to the army that he has had the honour to receive from her Majesty the Queen the appointment of Commander-in-Chief of the army in the Crimea.

The lieutenant-general, though deeply impressed with the responsibilities of the position in which he is placed, is most proud of the high and distinguished honour, and of the confidence thus reposed in him by his sovereign.

It will be the lieutenant-general's duty to endeavour to follow in the steps of his great predecessor; and he feels confident that the support of the generals, and of the officers and soldiers of maintaining unimpaired the honour and discipline of this noble army.

JAMES SIMPSON, Lieutenant-General Commanding.

The general orders have also announced several minor changes and appointments. Captain Lousdaine, who throughout the greater part of the siege has commanded the Naval Brigade with so much credit and distinction, has retired from this service, on being promoted to the rank of rear-admiral. He is succeeded by Capt. the Hon. H. Keppel, of her Majesty's ship St. Jean d'Acre, to whom Lieutenant his Serene Highness Prince Victor of Hohenlohe has been appointed aide-de-camp. Commissary-General Filder has been succeeded by Commissary-General Sir George Maclane, not Commissary-General Ramsay, as was stated in my last letter. It is a matter of surprise that Colonel Dickson, of the Royal Artillery, whose services have been so valuable during the whole campaign, and whose intimate knowledge of the Turkish language procured him the appointment of Interpreter at Head-quarters, should have been removed from active service in the field, to superintend the government powder mills at Waltham.

The temperature has been exceedingly high during the last three days, the thermometer averaging from 86 deg. F. to 92 deg. F., in the shade of a tent, during the greater part of the day while the sun was in the ascendant. About 10 o'clock each morning a breeze has sprung up from the sea, which has moderated the oppressive state of the atmosphere. The troops, however, are generally healthy, although cases of fever and bowel complaints still prevail in certain parts of the camps.

Lieutenant the Hon. Edward Fitzclarence, of the 7th Fusiliers, who was so severely wounded on the 18th of June that he had to suffer amputation of the thigh, died yesterday, the 23rd instant. Until a few days since he was reported to be progressing most favourably, and preparations were made and the day fixed for his return to England. Some bad symptoms then appeared which he had no power to resist—induced, it is said, by fretting at leaving a brother behind—and he gradually sank. He is described as a youth naturally of high spirit and courage, and, though very young, to have borne the loss of his limb with exemplary patience and fortitude.

JUNE 24.

A heavy fire was kept up from the batteries nearly the whole night. Another burning hot day.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

[A portion of the following appeared in our Evening Edition yesterday].

CAMP ABOVE SEBASTOPOL, June 28.

Several days have been named for the commencement of the new bombardment and attack. It is not probable that the event will be postponed to a much later date. The number of casualties in the trenches and new works is a subject of serious consideration, and though hardly so great as might be expected from the relative position of the besieged and besiegers, must act as a strong incentive to the respective commanders to perfect as speedily as possible the preparations for the renewed attack. Some of the new batteries of our allies, destined to act against the Russian works, are not yet finished, and a change is also being made in the armament of certain portions of our works, which is not likely to be completed for several days from the present date. The approaches towards the Malakhoff, close as they are, will have to be extended still further before the assault can be made with full security. It is wiser to bear our daily loss for a while, rather than sacrifice any chance which may ensure to a successful end. It is asserted that the formation of the new batteries is complete, at their power is no terrible, and the arrangement of the commanders is matured, that on the next occasion the assault will be undertaken without leaving room for the slightest apprehension respecting the ultimate result. The extensive preparations which are in progress, and the care which is being bestowed upon the works on all sides, afford reasonable ground for believing that this consummation of approaching success does not proceed from undue confidence.

No signal event has occurred with the armies in the plain. It is reported to-day that the French and Ottoman troops have made a reconnaissance as far as sixteen miles beyond the village of Baidar, and that they met with no traces of any hostile force in that direction.

The following is a diary of some of the leading events in front during the last few days:

July 20.—Another hot sunny morning, with an atmosphere equally as oppressive and sultry as it has been for some days past. The empty condition of the water tanks and reservoirs, and the gradually diminishing flow from the springs near the Fenn, are becoming a source of great inconvenience and anxiety. A great part of the water carried down for use in the trenches last night had to be brought from the large reservoir in the Tchernaya valley, connected with the aqueduct to Sebastopol. The distance of this water is so great, nearly three miles, and the descent to the low ground and subsequent ascent so tedious and difficult, that the expenditure of time and labour is rendered a serious matter. Stringent regulations are enforced to prevent the use of the water at the springs excepting for the most urgent purposes of consumption. The ground generally of the plateau is in a most arid state, being totally devoid of trees or vegetation; even in the ravines and valleys evaporation takes place with great rapidity, and when rain falls, the shallowness of the stratum of superficial earth above the limestone rock prevents any considerable quantity from being retained. It is rapidly carried away by surface drainage down the ravine towards the low inlet in which rests the great roadstead of Sebastopol. In some parts the limestone is very porous and intersected by deep fissures, and in these circumstances it would

appear that we are mainly indebted for the springs which furnish the ordinary supply of water to the camps.

Captain Benfield Gilby, of the 77th Regiment, was buried to-day, amidst the regret of a large circle of companions and friends. He died after a very brief illness, the immediate cause of his decease being erysipelas of the head. He had been wounded in the leg by a piece of shell when the attack was made on the Quarries in front of the Redan on the 7th of June, and his health had suffered during the recessary confinement which followed while he was under treatment for the injury. He had resumed his duty, however, and exposure to the glare of the sun in the trenches is said to have brought on the erysipelas, under which he so rapidly died. This officer, who had been with his regiment ever since it arrived in Turkey, had distinguished himself on several occasions. On the death of Colonel Egerton, in the ill-fated attack which he conducted against the Russian rifle pits, Captain Gilby succeeded to the command of the detachment as the next senior officer present; and though this was not made known to Lord Raglan at the time he wrote the first despatch on the subject, in a subsequent despatch the Commander of the Forces particularly mentioned Captain Gilby's services. When seized by his last fatal illness Captain Gilby was under orders to proceed to Malta, to take command of the depot of his regiment at that island.

Notwithstanding the excessive heat, and the exposure to which the troops are necessarily submitted during their twenty-four hours' turn of duty in the trenches, there has not been any increase in the number of cases of cholera. This subject had been considered prospectively with some anxiety, and it is a matter for thankfulness that this scourge has been averted from us. It was about the beginning of the month of July last year when the disease broke out with so much virulence among the troops in Bulgaria. Dysenteric disease and fever seem to be the only prevailing diseases of a serious character at present among the camps in front. The former mainly attacks new comers especially—persons who have not become inured to live under canvas and to camp diet. A young officer of the 38th Regiment, Lieut. Norman Romney, fell a victim to it yesterday. Many officers and men have had to leave camp from the same cause, for even when the dysentery is controlled, an amount of debility remains which renders restoration to health almost impossible without a complete change of air and scene. The Sanitarium near the Monastery of St. George is now ready for the reception of three hundred invalids, and some of the wards are already occupied. The site has all the benefit that can be derived from an open sea atmosphere, and the ground on which the huts are placed is very elevated, and near the head of a deep bay, which offers every facility for drainage. The interior of each hut seems to be provided with every essential for the welfare and comfort of the patients. There is one serious drawback—all the water for the establishment has to be brought from a well at the Monastery, which is nearly half a mile distant. In a hospital, where water is required for so many culinary and abstinency purposes, dependence on watercarts and supplies far from the hospital itself becomes a constant source of inconvenience and trouble. It is stated that when the situation was chosen, it was not anticipated there would be any difficulty in obtaining a stream of water from a spring at a higher elevation, near the camp of one of the French commissariat depots, by means of conduit pipes; but as the French had a large quantity of cattle there they objected to any part of the water of the stream being diverted from its regular course.

JULY 25.—Sky clouded over, and there is a promise of rain.

There was a heavy fire all night from the batteries and about midnight the enemy made a sortie against the embrasures and advanced trenches of the French on the Malakhoff hill. The moon had been shining brightly, and about five minutes after it had set and there was general obscurity, the Russians rushed out. The French were on the alert, and must have perceived the enemy advancing, for the first notice in the English attack of the sortie was the French bugles sounding the alarm. They were immediately followed by the usual sharp cry of the Russians as they rushed forward to attack, mixed with the sound of their bugles and shouts of officers. A very heavy fire of musketry followed, and all the batteries opened with terrific effect. The Russian steamers were very active in throwing shells over into the French works. It is said that the new French battery near Careening Bay did not open her fire against the steamers, reserving it for a simultaneous operation with other works on the left, which is to be carried into effect against the enemy's fleet in a few days. The flight of shells from our right attack, in the direction of the Malakhoff works, and the ground in their rear, was unceasing. As many as eight or nine shells from this attack might be counted in the air at one time. Some of the 13-inch mortars in our new advanced battery were also added in the direction of the low ground between the Redan and Malakhoff hills, along which it might be presumed troops would advance towards our own works, but the enemy exhibited no intention of making an attack on our trenches. After a period of fifteen or twenty minutes the musketry ceased. The enemy had not gained any advantage. The French sap, which is now fast approaching the ditch of the Malakhoff, was not injured. Our Allies have also some rifle pits close to the edge of the ditch, the fire from which causes great annoyance to the enemy, and they are so completely under the parapets of the works above, that the larger guns cannot be sufficiently depressed to reach them. The enemy, it is supposed, sought particularly the destruction of these ambuscades, but the alertness of the French prevented them from achieving the object.

While the contest was going on before the Malakhoff, there appeared to be an attack further on the right, near the advanced French works in front of the enemy's lines on the west side of Careening Bay; but the distance, and the fire on all sides, rendered observation in this direction very imperfect.

It is said that orders have been given for preparations to be made to receive a number of casualties on the 28th instant. No mention is made of the probable nature of the attack to take place on that date, and perfect secrecy is preserved with respect to future operations.

Rain has fallen this afternoon, and appears likely to continue falling. No sensible effect has yet been produced on the water collected in the tanks. The supply from the springs near the left ravine, by the side of which the Woronzoff road passes into Sebastopol, fell off in a remarkably sudden manner, and, not withstanding the rain which has fallen for some hours, is still lowering in a considerably decreased stream. The supply from the springs at the head of the Careening Bay ravine is more abundant. The springs in some other parts of the plateau have failed altogether.

July 26.—Light rain continued to fall during the whole night. The atmosphere is still clouded.

As a proof of the heedless indifference to danger which some of the men acquire from constantly moving amongst shot and shell, the following example, which occurred last evening, may be mentioned. A large shell had been thrown from the Redan into our right attack, and during its passage the fuze had accidentally dropped out. The shell fell, therefore, like a round shot into part of the approach connected with the old advanced or third parallel. Some men of the 47th Regiment were near, waiting for the reliefs to arrive, and ready to return to camp. One of these soldiers, after examining the inexploded shell, actually had the foolhardiness to jerk the ashes of the tobacco in his pipe, which he had just finished smoking, into the fuze-hole. Another of the men standing by, and observing the action, had only just time to utter an exclamation, when the shell burst. The reckless author of the mischief suffered severely—both his legs were shattered, and he was frightfully scorched about the head and face. Five other men were wounded, but fortunately none were dangerously hurt. It is presumed that the man had no idea of any of the pieces being sufficiently hot to cause ignition of the powder in the shell. Instances of men exposing themselves to imminent hazard by showing their position to the enemy occur daily even in the most advanced works, and it often requires the greatest watchfulness on the part of the officers to make them sufficiently thoughtful of their own safety, and that of others around them.

The cavalry divisions have been kept under arms all day; the several regiments being held ready to turn out at a moment's notice. It is said that an attack was also looked for in the direction of Tchorgun. A deserter from the enemy had reported that the Russians were making preparations to move against the Allied forces in the plain of Baklaklava, and that they had provided themselves with a large number of pontoon bridges for effecting the passage of the Tchernaya river. A body of Sardinian and French light troops were thrown out to make a reconnaissance, but returned without observing any appearances indicating such an intention on the part of the enemy. They exchanged a few shots with some Russian outposts.

Some new mortars, of large calibre have arrived for

the new advanced mortar battery, our nineteenth battery constructed in the right attack, were again brought up last night, and are to be given over for use by our allies. They are to be replaced by two of the mortars which have lately arrived. It is said that our artillery are expecting daily the arrival of a large supply of powerful mortars.

Rain has fallen at intervals during the day, but not to any considerable depth. It has had the beneficial effect, however, of cooling the atmosphere, and already some, though only a slight, increase has taken place in the quantity of water flowing from the springs. Had the weather continued hot and dry, the drought by this time must have been the source of very serious inconvenience.

The fire from the batteries on both sides was very incessant during the whole night. The Russians not only threw a vast amount of shells into various parts of the works, but kept up a constant discharge of grape and "bouquets" against the advanced trenches. These bouquets consist of a number of small shells or grenades; they are thrown from a mortar, about ten or twelve at one discharge; they burst closely together, and their fragments are scattered in all directions. A constant fire of this kind is going on against the French works on the Malakhoff Hill, and in addition the sharpshooters maintain an unceasing fusillade. The loss of our allies, from casualties of all kinds, is said now to be equal in numbers to a regiment per month, or nearly one hundred men per diem. This seems to be a very large number, but the great extent of ground they occupy, and the strength of the force employed in guarding the trenches and in working parties, with the closeness to the enemy's lines, will sufficiently explain the apparent improbability of the statement. The proportion of our own casualties has greatly increased of late, though the majority have not been providentially of a very grave character. From the great weight of our shells, and the superior power and comparative proximity of our guns, the loss in the ranks of the enemy must also be very great.

A constant fire has been kept up all day in the batteries.

July 27.—The fire in the batteries was very heavy, and continued incessantly all night.

A Circassian chief, apparently of very high rank, with a staff of five or six attendants, was escorted over the works on the Mamelon Vert by a French general officer to-day. The novelty of his costume, equally with that of his followers, who all carried the cartridges for their pistols slung in a row like a necklace, and depended upon their highly embroidered vests, attracted general attention as they rode through the camps. They were powerfully framed men, and bore a spirited and soldier-like bearing.

The officers of Engineers in the field are much reduced in numbers. The arrival of others is said to be daily expected. The sad losses in this corps, both on the 7th and 18th of June—no less than five being killed in the two attacks, and several wounded—greatly reduced their already diminished numbers. Colonel Tylden, who was dangerously wounded on the 18th of June, and to whose "eminent services" the late Commander-in-Chief called particular attention in one of his despatches, left yesterday for England, in the William Jackson transport. It is said to retain that he is reported to be in a very precarious state. From the commencement of the siege Colonel Tylden has been most active, and his gallant conduct on more than one occasion, in reconning the enemy when making an attack on our works, was as conspicuous as to attract general attention. He had previously distinguished himself at the Cape of Good Hope during the Kaffir war. Colonel Gordon is also absent on account of ill health.

No rain has fallen to-day, but the sky has been overcast, and the temperature less high and oppressive.

JULY 28.—The fire in the batteries was as heavy and uninterrupted last night as it has been for several nights past. The early part of the night was moonlight and clear; subsequently clouds gathered, and some smart showers of rain followed.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAMP ARGUS SEBASTOPOL, JULY 31.

Very little change has occurred in the relative positions of the besieged and besiegers during the last three days. The French have not advanced any further towards the enceinte of the Malakhoff, but they have been busily occupied both in extending and deepening the approaches already made. The trenches are sufficiently wide now for the troops to stand four deep under cover from direct fire. The moon was full on the 29th instant, and the nights have been sufficiently clear for working parties in front to be immediately perceived by the enemy. A newly-placed gabion becomes at once the signal for a terrific discharge of grape and small shells. The same causes have acted in preventing the sap from being extended toward the Redan.

The enemy has executed a counter-approach, the object of which has been puzzling many of our engineers. On the night of the 26th instant the Russians were distinctly heard working, about the Korniloff bastion, as it was supposed, by the French in the advanced approaches on the Malakhoff hill. When daylight appeared, however, it was observed that a deep trench had been cut in the glacis, at right angles to the great ditch around the Malakhoff works. It was almost directly opposite to the salient angle of the Korniloff bastion, communicated with the ditch by an opening in the counterscarp, passed through the abattis, and was extended in a direction towards the nearest point of the French approach. This passage, which seems to be very deep, decreases in breadth as it recedes from the ditch. The earth has been thrown up on either side, so as to form two parapets, and the whole has the appearance of one of those covered passages known, in the language of fortification, as a double *caponnière*. But what the object of it is in the present instance is not very apparent. Whether intended to counteract any supposed mining in that direction, or to be used as a passage for sallying out against the besiegers, is a matter of surmise. Since the night of its first construction it has been deepened, but in other respects it remains, as far as can be seen, in the same state in which it was when first observed. The colour of the fresh earth thrown up and the opening made in the dark abattis by its passage render this trench very conspicuous.

The Russians have brought a heavy fire to bear upon the new battery erected on the east side of Careening Bay near the water of the great roadstead, and have succeeded in some degree in delaying its completion. There are no less than six batteries on the north side, the guns of which can be turned against the spur and ridge to the right of the Careening Harbour. The largest battery is the 18-gun battery nearly directly opposite. Our allies call this work, from its being close to the large burying-place frequently referred to from its conspicuous position, La Batterie de la Cimetière. Large Russian working parties have been very busy about it of late: they appear to be extending it, and also to be excavating deep trenches along the heights, both to the east and west of the work alluded to. The small 5-gun battery which the Russians deserted the day after the capture of the Selenghinsk and Volhynia redoubts, has been converted into a strong work by our allies. It is now ready for its armament, which will consist of three 13-inch mortars and a Lancaster gun. From its commanding position over the roadstead, being at the extreme end of the spur of the mountain, it is anticipated that this work also will be very effective against the Russian shipping. The Selenghinsk redoubt, which is still familiarly called the White Battery, has an immensely powerful armament. It is said that we are expecting the arrival of a further supply of large mortars.

It has been noticed that, in the large Russian cemetery to the west of the Star Fort, a large obelisk has lately been erected. This appears to mark the grave of some distinguished personage, for groups of soldiers have been frequently seen gathered around it, and

(Continued in Vol. 2.