



SUPPLEMENT
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War-Department, November 1, 1855.

LORD PANMURE has this day received a Despatch and its Enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by General Sir James Simpson, G.C.B.

*Sevastopol,
October 20, 1855.*

MY LORD,

I AM happy to be able to congratulate your Lordship on the successful termination of the expedition to Kinbourn. I transmit a copy of the report of Brigadier-General the Honourable A. Spencer. This contains all the information I have received on the operations, with the exception that, in a private note, Sir E. Lyons mentions that the enemy have exploded the three forts at Ochakoff, commanding the northern entrance into the Dnieper.

In consequence of the continued fineness of the weather, great progress has been made in the construction of the road and railway. The divisions have all got some weeks' supply of rations in their camp; and I entertain no anxiety of there being a scarcity of anything during the approaching winter.

I informed your Lordship, in my despatch of the 13th instant, that the Highland Division, under Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell, were to proceed to Eupatoria, and co-operate with the French; but upon the receipt of your telegraphic despatch of the 13th instant, apprizing me that the Russians had resolved to hazard a battle, and attack the Allies, I did not consider myself justified in weakening the force under my command by so many men, and I therefore countermanded the movement.

I have the honour to enclose the weekly reports of Colonel McMurdo and Dr. Hall.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) **JAMES SIMPSON,**
General Commanding.

The Lord Panmure, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1.

*Camp before Kinbourn,
October 17, 1855.*

SIR,

IN reporting, for the information of the General Commanding the Forces, the fall of the garrison of the Fortress of Kinbourn, this day, I have the honour to state, that the force under my command, as per state enclosed,* effected their landing on Monday, the 15th, unopposed.

Owing to a heavy surf, and which continued all day yesterday, the landing has been accomplished with some little difficulty. The troops, however, were all got on shore on the first day, and have since been employed in entrenching our position. There are rumours of a force of the enemy collecting at Kherson, about 40 miles from here, but our immediate neighbourhood appears to be clear.

The advanced line of the position, flanked on both sides by the sea, is held by the force under my command, and is about a mile in extent.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) **AUGUSTUS SPENCER,**
Brigadier-General Commanding English
Land Force.

*The Military Secretary, &c.,
Head Quarters.*

Enclosure 2.

*Head-Quarters, Land Transport Camp,
Crimea, October 15, 1855.*

WEEKLY REPORT.—No. 16.

THE arrivals during the week have been limited to railway horses. 19 landed from Her Majesty's ship Assistance, and 79 from the steam transport Arabia.

Each vessel lost a horse on the passage; but on the whole they have arrived in fair condition.

I have had them put under cover; and hope, with care, to have them in working order in the course of a week.

* 1st Brigade, 4th Division; Royal Marines, 1,200 men, rank and file; Royal Engineers, Artillery, and detachment of Cavalry.

The work of ballasting is progressing favourably, and as many waggons and teams are supplied for this service as are required without much prejudice to the ordinary demands.

The precautions taken by Mr. Beatty are likely to be effectual in securing the line for the winter; and I only regret that the state of this able engineer's health will compel him to relinquish his work for a while. He will leave it in able hands, however. Mr. Campbell has served with Mr. Beatty from the beginning, and is now actively engaged in carrying out his plans upon the line.

Nothing but the application of science could enable the British Army to exist in its present position.

The little harbour of Balaklava which I can liken to nothing than the eye of the needle, through which the camel *must* pass, is now embraced on either side by the railway—its branches leading from the various wharves and storehouses, to depôts outside the town, where room (though not sufficient) is afforded to the transport to load up. Waggons and their teams are thus allotted for the special service of drawing supplies of fuel, hay and corn, to these depôts, independent of the trains which proceed to the front. The narrow ways of the little town are thus relieved in a great measure from the interminable crush of animals and carriages throughout the day, which effectually impeded one another, and caused the death of many.

The road is another important work, the progress of which I watch with the greatest interest. I am an old road maker myself, and believe the line to be good.

But the most important work of all will, in my opinion, be the floating factory.

This is a measure worthy of England; for her base is on the waters, and she has now floated Woolwich to her army in the Crimea.

I have minutely inspected this vessel and her fittings (and moreover drawn largely from her stores), and have been struck with admiration at her capacities.

I have had the fashion of the boxes of wheels taken, and I hope to have them cast in large numbers.

Iron axles can be welded and turned, engines fitted, and timbers sawn; in short, I have no longer to look 3,000 miles for the source of vitality. I hope now to be enabled to make provision for the Spring; for the transport is so situated that the material parts of all the carriages must become worn out by the incessant traffic to which it will necessarily be exposed throughout the entire winter.

I reckon that every waggon, with its horse, harness, and driver, must travel on an average of 14 miles daily, over indifferent roads, and that this wear and tear must extend over a period of six months; at the end of which time, when the army, refreshed, will call upon this corps to take it into the field, neither waggons nor harness will be in a serviceable state. It is absolutely necessary, therefore, that strong reserves of wheels, axles, shafts, poles, and harness of every kind should be ready; and although I see that the floating factory can do much, it will be necessary for the arsenals at home to help, especially with harness, which should be very strong, and serviceable.

I think it would be worth while to ascertain, by comparison, the relative quality and prices of the English and Sardinian mule waggon harness. It may be found that the advantage, as to cost, is on the Sardinian side, and that the stout white leather of which it is composed is more durable than that furnished to this corps.

The general organization of this corps proceeds

satisfactorily. I was glad of an opportunity lately, when a division of the army was under orders for Eupatoria to try the efficiency of the corps. Two divisions of transport, composed of 3,000 animals, with their proportion of waggons, carts, ambulances and artificers, were ready for embarkation in a very short time, and appeared very efficient and complete.

The scope of the intended operations of the force being afterwards limited to three or four days, the amount of transport was proportionally reduced to nearly one half.

The bulk of the transport of an army is entirely regulated by the radius of intended operations—it is solely a question of supply. Thus, for these three days, which were intended to be the scope of the operations at Eupatoria, the Commissary-General made a requisition on this department for 1,500 pack animals and 20 carts. The requirements of the other branches of the force were trifling compared to this demand, and it will enable his Lordship to form some idea of what the requirements of the whole army will be, when it takes the field in a country devoid of resources.

I will here venture to express an opinion, as it bears materially upon the subject of transport; it is that our soldiers should habitually move with three days' provisions on their person, whether it be in war or peace, the weight should never be diminished.

The Roman soldiers used to be clad in heavier armour during peace, than they wore on a campaign, so that war with its burdens and toils should sit lightly upon them. The French soldiers in the present campaign carry four days' provisions, besides their tents; and if the British soldier should do the same, 1,500 animals to every 6,000 men that take the field, would be saved to the transport of the army.

I make these observations with profound respect to the opinions of my superiors, and in the spirit and intention of these reports, viz., to do all that lays in my power to make the British army moveable and efficient.

To return to the corps. The arrival of the young English drivers is a timely resource, as the natives had begun to desert in great numbers, notwithstanding the precautions I have taken to prevent them, in communication with the police and Admiral Freemantle.

I have obtained labourers from Constantinople to aid in building stables, and I hope that the most valuable of the animals will soon be under cover.

I have adapted the construction entirely to the nature of the ground on which the several camps are pitched, which, being principally rocky, I find the simplest mode to be that of excavating a couple of feet, and running a centre wall with a roof on either side. The earth thrown out by the excavation being mixed with manure, forms every day a higher bank outside, so as to increase the protection and warmth of the stables.

Stone is abundant, and I am making use of the materials of the packing cases, in which the bat saddles are sent out, for planking.

M. M'MURDO,
D. G.

Total of last week's return of animals	14,837
Destroyed	83
Died	17

100

Total remaining 14,737

M. M'MURDO,
D. G.

Enclosure 3.

*Head Quarters, Camp, Sevastopol,
October 16, 1855.*

SIR,

THE health of the army, as you will notice by the accompanying weekly state of sick, continues satisfactory. There has been a slight increase of cholera in the 2nd and 3rd Divisions during the week, chiefly amongst the newly-arrived men. Catarrhal complaints have also been more numerous. Large fatigue parties are employed daily in making and repairing roads; but the night duty is light, and the men's rations and dress are both good. It has been proposed to give a ration of peas once a week to the men with their salt pork, which will be an agreeable variety and conducive to health. Huts are arriving daily, and I hope, before the wet stormy weather of winter sets in, a large part of the army will be under proper cover.

The Highland Division at Kamara is remarkably healthy, so are the Artillery and 3rd Division.

Taking the whole army, the admissions to strength have only been 3.04 per cent.; the deaths to strength, 0.10 per cent.; and the proportion of sick to well, 8.09 per cent., including wounded; exclusive of wounded, 5.30 per cent.

Last week the proportions were, admissions to strength, 2.84 per cent.; deaths to strength, 0.09 per cent.; sick to well, 8.00 per cent.; sick to well, exclusive of wounded, 5.16 per cent.

The following table shows the admissions and deaths under the leading heads of disease:—

	This week.		Last week.	
	Admitted.	Died.	Admitted.	Died.
Fevers	273	15	295	13
Head affections	8	3	3	0
Pulmonic	109	2	96	0
Diarrhoea	371	3	369	7
Cholera	22	8	12	7
Dysentery	80	3	96	6
Wounds and Contusions.	134*	19	151	17
Other diseases	638	3	528	1
Total	1,626	56	1,550	51

* 60 of these were transfers from regimental to general hospitals, and 73 were ordinary accidents.

I have, &c.,

J. HALL,
Inspector-General of Hospitals.

General Sir James Simpson, G.C.B.,
Commander of the Forces.

*Return of Wounded Men admitted into Hospital
for treatment after the Assault on the Redan
Fort, Sevastopol, on the 8th September, 1855.*

15th October, 1855.

Ordnance Corps and Men of the Line admitted into Ordnance Hospital—Total wounded, 82; 52 by musket ball, 21 by grape and round shot or shell, 9 by sword, bayonet, or other means. Of the foregoing, 29 were wounded through the chest or upper part of the body. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 36; died of wounds, 27; remaining 15th October, 19. The greater part of these were men of other corps admitted into Ordnance Hospital.

1st Division—Total wounded 3; 1 by musket ball, 2 by grape and round shot or shell. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 2; remaining 15th October, 1. Not engaged in the assault.

Highland Division—Total wounded, 67; 13 by musket ball, 43 by grape and round shot or shell, 11 by sword, bayonet, or other means. Of the foregoing, 47 were wounded through the chest or upper part of the body. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 55; died of wounds, 6; remaining 15th October, 6. Not engaged in the assault.

2nd Division—Total wounded, 502; 259 by musket ball, 198 by grape and round shot or shell, 45 by sword, bayonet, or other means. Of the foregoing, 374 were wounded through the chest or upper part of the body. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 337; died of wounds, 29; remaining 15th October, 136. Engaged in the assault.

3rd Division—Total wounded, 12; 11 by musket ball, 1 by sword, bayonet, or other means. Of the foregoing, 7 were wounded through the chest or upper part of the body. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 5; died of wounds, 5; remaining 15th October, 2. Not engaged; men belonging to other divisions admitted.

4th Division—Total wounded, 64; 10 by musket ball, 54 by grape and round shot or shell. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 51; died of wounds, 10; remaining 15th October, 3. Division not engaged; 41 of the number were contusions from stones, &c.

Light Division—Total wounded, 934; 485 by musket ball, 289 by grape and round shot or shell, 160 by sword, bayonet, or other means. Of the foregoing 235 were wounded through the chest or upper part of the body. Discharged from Hospital since 8th September, 632; died of wounds, 80; remaining 15 October, 288.

General Hospital Camp—Total wounded, 246; 172 by musket ball, 47 by grape and round shot or shell; 27 by sword, bayonet, or other means. Of the foregoing, 114 were wounded through the chest or upper part of the body. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 46; died of wounds, 69; remaining 15th October, 131. Men from Light and 2nd Divisions. The worst cases many of them were left on the field.

Total wounded, 1910; 1003 by musket ball, 654 by grape and round shot or shell, 253 by sword, bayonet, or other means. Of the foregoing, 806* were wounded through the chest or upper part of the body. Discharged from hospital since 8th September, 1174†; died of wounds, 226; remaining 15th October, 586.

J. HALL,
Inspector-General of Hospitals.

* The number of men shot through the upper part of the body, particularly through the upper part of the chest and shoulders, is very remarkable, and shows the position they must have been in when wounded.

† This number shows that many of the injuries received were not of a very serious nature.

Admiralty, November 1, 1855.

DESPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have 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.

No. 859.
Sir,

*Royal Albert, off Kimburn,
October 18, 1855.*

MY letter of the 6th instant, No. 834, will have informed the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that an allied naval and military expedition was to leave the anchorage off Sevastopol, on the following day, for the purpose of taking and occupying the three Russian forts on Kimburn Spit, at the entrance of Dnieper Bay; and the telegraphic message, which I forwarded to Varna last night, will soon communicate to their Lordships the success which has attended this enterprise.

It is now my duty to give a more detailed account of the proceedings of the expedition.

I have therefore the honour to state, that we arrived at a rendezvous off Odessa, on the 8th instant, but owing to strong south-west winds, which would have prevented the troops from landing, it was not until the morning of the 14th instant, that the expedition was enabled to reach the anchorage off Kimburn.

During the night the English steam gun-vessels, *Fancy*, *Boxer*, *Cracker*, and *Clinker*, and four French gun-vessels, forced the entrance into Dnieper Bay, under a heavy but ineffectual fire from the Spit Fort, and on the following morning the British troops, under the orders of Brigadier-General Honourable A. A. Spencer, together with the French troops, under the command of General Bazaine, were landed about three miles to the southward of the principal fort, and thus, by these nearly simultaneous operations, the retreat of the garrisons and the arrival of reinforcements were effectually cut off.

In the evening the English and French mortar vessels tried their ranges against the main fort with excellent effect.

The wind having again veered round to the southward, with a great deal of swell, nothing could be done on the 16th; but in the forenoon of the 17th, a fine northerly breeze, with smooth water, enabled the French floating batteries, mortar vessels, and gunboats, and the *Odin* and the mortar vessels, and gunboats named in the margin,* to take up positions off Fort Kimburn; and their fire was so effective, that before noon the buildings in the interior of the fort were in flames, and the eastern face had suffered very considerably.

At noon, the *Royal Albert*, *Algiers*, *Agamemnon* and *Princess Royal*, accompanied by Admiral Bruat's four ships of the line, approached Fort Kimburn in a line abreast, which the shape of the coast rendered necessary, and the precision with which they took up their positions in the closest order, with jib-booms run in and only two feet of water under their keels, was really admirable. At the same moment the squadrons under the orders of Rear-Admirals Sir Houston Stewart and Pelion pushed through the passage between Ochakoff and the spit of Kimburn, and took the forts in reverse, whilst the *St. Jean d'Acre*, *Curaçoa*, *Tribune* and *Sphinx*, undertook the centre battery,

* Mortar vessels—*Raven*, *Magnet*, *Camel*, *Hardy*, *Flamer*, *Firm*. Gun vessels—*Lynx*, *Arrow*, *Viper*, *Snake*, *Wrangler*, *Beagle*.

and the *Hannibal*, *Dauntless* and *Terrible*, that on the point of the spit.

The enemy soon ceased to reply to our overwhelming fire, and, though he made no sign of surrender, Admiral Bruat and I felt that a garrison which had bravely defended itself against so superior a force deserved every consideration, and we therefore made the signal to cease firing, hoisted a flag of truce, and sent on shore a summons, which was accepted by the Governor, Major-General Kokonovitch, and the garrisons, consisting of 1,400 men, marched out with the honours of war, laid down their arms on the glacis, and, having surrendered themselves as prisoners of war, they will be embarked in Her Majesty's ship *Vulcan* to-morrow.

The casualties in the allied fleets are very few, amounting in Her Majesty's ships to only two wounded. The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded is, I fear, very severe.

In the three forts, which have suffered considerably by our fire, we found eighty-one guns and mortars mounted, and an ample supply of ammunition.

This morning the enemy has blown up the forts on Ochakof Point, which mounted twenty-two guns, and we learnt from a Polish deserter, who escaped in a boat from them during the night, that the Commandant apprehended an attack from our mortar vessels, which would not only have destroyed the forts, but also the neighbouring dwellings.

I have abstained from entering into the particulars of the proceedings of the squadron under the orders of Rear-Admiral Sir H. Stewart, as he has so ably described them in the letter which I have the honour to enclose, from which their Lordships will perceive that I have received from him on this occasion, as, indeed, I have on all others since I have had the good fortune to have him as second in command, that valuable assistance which might be expected from an officer of his distinguished and acknowledged merits; and I beg leave to add my testimony to his in praise of all the officers, and especially Lieutenant Marryat and Mr. Brooker, whom he recommends to their Lordships' favourable consideration.

To particularize the merit of the officers under my command, where all have behaved admirably, would be a difficult task indeed; but I beg leave to mention that the same officers of the Navy and the Royal Marine Artillery, who were in the mortar vessels at the fall of Sevastopol, are in them now, and that on this occasion, as before, they have been under the direction of Captain Willcox of the *Odin*, and Captain Digby of the *Royal Marine Artillery*. Nor can I refrain from stating what I believe to be the feeling of the whole fleet, that on this expedition, as on that to Kertch, the talents and indefatigable exertions of that very valuable officer, Captain Spratt, of the *Spitfire*, and of those under his command, entitle them to our warmest thanks, and deserve to be particularly mentioned.

I need hardly say that my distinguished colleague, Admiral Bruat, and I have seen with infinite satisfaction our respective squadrons acting together as one fleet.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND LYONS,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

SIR,

*Valorous, in Dnieper Bay,
October 18, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that, in pursuance of your orders, I hoisted my flag in Her Majesty's steam frigate *Valorous*, on the afternoon of the 14th instant, immediately after the arrival of the allied fleets off Kimburn Spit, and proceeded, under the able guidance of Captain Spratt, of the *Spitfire*, to take up positions at the entrance of Dnieper Bay, where, with the division of steam vessels, placed under my orders (as per margin),* and in company with those under the orders of my colleague, Rear-Admiral Odet Pellion, we remained in readiness to force an entrance into the Dnieper, for the purpose directed by you, of preventing, as far as possible, any reinforcements being thrown into the forts on Kimburn Spit, as well as to cut off the retreat of the garrison, should either be attempted.

At 9 p.m. I instructed Lieutenant Joseph H. Marryat, of the *Cracker*, to take on board Mr. Edward W. Brooker, additional Master of the *Spitfire*, and endeavour with him to determine the course of the intricate channel through which we were to pass, and to lay down buoys along the south side of it; the French having undertaken to perform the same service on the north side.

I likewise directed Mr. Thomas Potter, Master of the *Furious* (lent to do duty in the *Valorous*), to proceed with two boats of the *Tribune*, and, protected by the *Cracker*, to search for the spit on the north bank, and on his return endeavour to place a buoy on the edge of the shoal off Kimburn Spit, that the entrance of the channel might be assured.

As soon as the preconcerted signal was given, indicating that this operation was effected, I despatched the *Fancy*, *Boxer*, and *Clinker*, into Dnieper Bay, with orders to anchor in such positions as would best protect the right flank of our troops, upon the disembarkation taking place, and to make that their chief care, as long as there was any possibility of the enemy threatening them.

During the night, Rear-Admiral Odet Pellion also sent in the French gunboats for the same purpose.

At daylight on the following morning I had the satisfaction of observing all the gunboats, French and English, anchored safely to the north-east of Kimburn Fort, and without any of them having sustained damage, although the enemy had fired both shot and shell and musketry at them during their passage in. Thus the chief part of the object you had most anxiously in view was accomplished.

While still in considerable doubt as to the extent to which the channel for the larger ships was buoyed, at ten a.m. Lieutenant Marryat and Mr. Brooker came to inform me that the work entrusted to them had been completed, and that the latter officer was ready to pilot the ships in. The zealous desire evinced by these officers to furnish me personally with their report on the difficult navigation of the Dnieper deserves my warmest thanks, and the gallant manner in which Lieutenant Marryat brought the *Cracker* out for that purpose, under a very heavy fire from the whole of the forts and batteries, elicited the admiration of all who witnessed the proceeding.

We were now fully prepared to advance, and, in obedience to your directions, awaited the signal for general attack.

The whole of the proceedings of yesterday must be already fully known to you; but it is right that I should state briefly the share taken in them

by the division you did me the honour to place under my orders, which consisted of the ships and vessels as already stated, reinforced by those named below.

It being necessary to advance in single line, it was arranged that the ships should do so in the following order.

Valorous—Captain C. H. M. Buckle, C.B., bearing my flag.

Furious—Captain William Loring, C.B.

Asmodée (French), bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Odet Pellion.

Cacique (French).

Sidon—Captain George Goldsmith.

Leopard—Captain George Giffard, C.B.

Sané (French).

Gladiator—Captain C. F. Hillyar.

Firebrand—Captain E. A. Inglefield.

Stromboli—Commander Cowper Coles.

Spiteful—Commander F. A. Shortt.

At noon, the signal being made from your flagship to weigh, we proceeded through the channel, each ship engaging the spit batteries and Kimburn Fort as they came within range.

To Lieutenant Marryat, of the *Cracker*, is due the merit of preceding and piloting us through, which he did with great judgment.

Had the enemy continued his defence of the spit batteries, the *Sidon*, *Leopard*, *Sané*, and *Gladiator* were directed, in that case, to remain in front of them until their fire was completely silenced; but as they were subdued by the accurate and well sustained fire which was poured upon them by the ships which you had placed to the westward of the Spit, and by those of our own squadron on passing to the eastward, this became unnecessary; the whole division, therefore, continued its course through the channel, and anchored well inside Fort Nicolaev and Oehlakof Point.

During this time the four gunboats, *Fancy*, *Grinder*, *Boxer*, and *Clinker*, did good service, by placing themselves in such position as to throw a flanking fire on the middle battery and Kimburn Fort at the time our division passed within short range.

Immediately on anchoring, I transferred my flag to the *Cracker*, and followed by the other gunboats, proceeded close off the east front of Kimburn Fort, to be ready to act as circumstances required, should the enemy's fire, which at that moment had entirely ceased, be renewed; however, the necessity for further action did not arise.

As the service entrusted to me was carried out under your own observation, I feel it to be unnecessary to do more than to record my grateful sense of the very satisfactory manner in which the whole of the ships under my orders took up their appointed stations, and of the manner in which all employed performed their duty.

I think myself fortunate in having for my temporary flagship so efficient and well ordered a man-of-war as the *Valorous*, and I feel much indebted to Captain Buckle and his zealous First Lieutenant Joseph Edye, for their unremitting attention and assistance.

I am delighted to add, that in concerting with our gallant Allies the arrangements necessary for carrying into effect the present successful operations, I have received the cordial support and concurrence of my excellent colleague, Rear-Admiral Odet Pellion.

The anxiety which you yourself ever feel to do full justice to merit and exertion must be my excuse for presuming to request your most favour-

* *Valorous*, *Gladiator*, *Fancy*, *Cracker*, *Grinder*, *Boxer*, *Clinker*.

able notice of Lieutenant Marryat and Mr. Brooker. They have had anxious, difficult and dangerous work to perform, and they have each of them executed it admirably.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Rear-Admiral.

*Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund
Lyons, Bart., &c., &c., &c.,
G.C.B.*

No. 843.
SIR,

*Royal Albert, off Odessa,
October 9, 1855.*

I TRANSMIT, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a letter from Captain Robert Hall, of the *Miranda*, Senior Officer in the Straits of Kertch, detailing the proceedings of an Anglo-French naval and military expedition to Taman and Fanagoria, on the 24th ultimo, for the purpose of depriving the enemy of his means of sheltering troops in the ensuing winter, and in order to procure materials for housing our troops at Cape St. Paul's and Yenikalé.

I also enclose, for their Lordships' information, copy of a letter from Captain Osborn, of the *Vesuvius*, detailing the proceedings of an Anglo-French attack on Temrionk, which, by previous arrangement, was made simultaneously with that on Taman and Fanagoria.

Both expeditions were conducted in a most satisfactory manner, and were accomplished with the loss of only one man wounded. Three of the 71st Regiment and three of the (French) Infantry of the Marine were taken prisoners, in consequence of their own imprudence.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) EDMUND LYONS,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

No. 9.
SIR,

*Her Majesty's ship Miranda, off
St. Paul's, October 3, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to report, that according to your directions of the 25th August, I put myself in communication with Captain Bonet, of His Imperial Majesty's ship *Pomone*, commanding the French naval station here, relative to an expedition to destroy the Russian establishments at Fanagoria and Taman; and also arranged with Captain Osborn, that a simultaneous attack should be made on Temrionk by the Azof Squadron.

On the 24th ultimo, at daylight, the military part of the expedition, under command of Major Hunter (71st), embarked, consisting of 300 of the 71st Highland Light Infantry, carried by the *Sulina*, and 600 French, of the Infantry of the Marine, placed on board six gunboats of that nation; and at 8-30, the flotilla, as per margin*, proceeded.

Arriving at Taman at noon, swarms of cavalry were seen near it and Fanagoria, and a strong body marched into the powerful earthwork at the latter place.

The gunboats appointed to cover the landing, as per margin,† immediately opened fire, and in a short time forced the enemy to retire, leaving the

troops to land without opposition at the spot previously agreed upon, about a mile east of Fanagoria.

By 4, P.M., we were completely established in the fort, in which the field-piece of this ship, and four light mountain howitzers from the *Pomone* were placed in position. A large body of cavalry, numbering at least 600, continuing drawn up in front of Fanagoria, were dispersed by some Lancaster shells beautifully thrown from the *Lynx* and *Arrow*.

During the night a small body of the enemy fired upon our sentries and wounded a seaman of the *Miranda*.

The buildings within the earthwork were found to be much more extensive than was anticipated, consisting of a large hospital, some storehouses, and two very large powder magazines, in perfect order but quite empty, composing, with the houses of the employés, a very considerable establishment; sixty-six guns, chiefly of 6, 9, and 12-pounders, and four cohorn mortars were lying disabled with the work.

The storehouses were all empty except one, which contained some hospital necessaries, and the dispensary, which contained some medicines which have been preserved for the use of the squadron.

Taman was found to be completely deserted, and the houses quite empty. A large magazine of flour and another of corn were fired by the Russians before they retired, and 11 iron guns, 30 and 36-pounders, which were found buried at Taman, and were said to have been a present from the Empress Catherine, have been destroyed by us. Considerable bodies of the enemy's cavalry hovered about, during the time of our being occupied in taking down and removing the material of the building, but did not approach within gunshot.

I regret to have to report that they succeeded in cutting off three stragglers of the 71st, and three of infantry of marine.

I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal and activity of the officers and men of the squadron, especially of Lieutenant Aynsley, commanding the *Lynx*, who, during my absence, superintended the duties of the squadron afloat, and of Lieutenant Fitzroy, of the *Miranda*, who had the direction of the disembarkation, &c., of the troops, as well as the shipment of the wood, &c., for removal to Yenikalé. Nothing could exceed the good feeling and cordiality existing between the officers and men of our Allies, and our own.

On the morning of the 3rd every building at Fanagoria and Taman which could shelter an enemy having been destroyed, and large quantities of the material removed to Yenikalé and St. Paul's, the troops re-embarked; and returned to their quarters at Kertch and St. Paul's.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. HALL,
Captain.

*List of one man belonging to Her Majesty's ship
Miranda, wounded on the 25th September, 1855.*

William Potter, Leading Stoker, slightly.

(Signed) J. A. CORBETT, M.D.,
Surgeon.
R. HALL,
Captain.

*Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund
Lyons, Bart., &c., &c., &c.,
G.C.B.*

* *Lynx*, *Arrow*, *Snake*, *Harpy*, *Sulina*, and 10 French gun-boats.

† *Lynx*, *Arrow*, *Snake*, and two French gunboats.

Her Majesty's ship Vesuvius, Sea of Azof,
No. 35. September 26, 1855.
Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that, in pursuance of arrangements made with Captain Hall, Her Majesty's ship *Miranda*, I proceeded, on the 23rd September, with the vessels named in the margin*, to harass and keep in check the enemy's troops at Temriouk, whilst the allied squadron at Kertch attacked Fanagoria and Taman.

On the 24th September, at daybreak, we arrived off Temriouk Lake, and were there joined by the French steamers *Milan*, *Caton*, and *Fulton*.

We failed in reaching the town with our boats, the lake proving too shoal for even those of the lightest description; up to noon however we kept a large body of horse, foot and artillery in the town, the latter opening a sharp but harmless fire at us to prevent the destruction of a fine brig which was secreted just inside the lake's entrance. Weighing from thence, the squadron, accompanied by that of our gallant Allies, under Capitaine de Frégate *De Cintré*, proceeded to cut off the communication between Temriouk and Taman by the narrow belt of land lying north of the lakes. In this we perfectly succeeded; for at 1 P.M. a heavy column of troops, with nine field-guns, were discovered on the march, proceeding towards Taman. Opening fire on them at 2,500 yards, we stopped their march; and after suffering severely, as it appeared to us, they retreated upon Temriouk, the *Wrangler* with her Lancaster guns keeping up an effective fire upon them to an extraordinary distance. Some of the enemy's riflemen, who with much gallantry fruitlessly endeavoured to keep the beach, and save a quantity of forage, must have lost a number of men by the admirable shell practice of the French squadron. Whilst this was doing, I detached the *Ardent*, *Beagle*, and *Cracker*, to watch another favourable part of the neck of land. Lieutenant *Campion* was fortunate enough to discover that the road lay over a fine wooden bridge, which spanned a channel connecting the Sea of Azof with Lower Temriouk Lake.

The bridge was 180 feet long and 30 feet wide, composed of strong wooden piles, and sleepers at each end, and four pontoons in the centre, the whole well planked over and apparently much used. It was evidently the route of communication between Temriouk and Taman, except by

* *Vesuvius*, *Curlew*, *Ardent*, *Wrangler*, *Beagle*, *Fancy*, *Grinder*, *Cracker*.

the very circuitous round of the extensive lakes. The burning of this bridge effectually stopped the garrison of Temriouk, who could not be under 2,000 men and some 10 or 12 guns, arriving in time to resist the landing at Taman.

I therefore weighed, as the weather was threatening, and have since driven in and destroyed the Cossack posts which had been established in this neighbourhood, and to watch our garrison at Enikale.

Two French flags (tricolors) were found by Lieutenant *Strode* at one of these posts, the Russians having left them, as well as some of their arms, in making a hasty retreat. I am unable to say under what circumstances they could have got into the enemy's possession.

Throughout these operations I have received the greatest assistance from Commander *Rowley Lambert*, of Her Majesty's ship *Curlew*, and the zealous exertions of the officers and men in the squadron generally.

The *Recruit* has been left to watch the Straits of *Ghenitch*, and Lieutenant *Day*, her commander, alone, on the nights of the 18th and 21st September, passed the enemy's picquets there, and waded up to their gun-vessels and guards in the channel. His reconnaissance confirms my opinion of their perfect readiness to resist an attack in that direction. I am sorry to say the exposure and excessive labour has caused Lieutenant *Day* to be laid up with a severe attack of illness.

The two Russian fishermen taken at the mouth of the *Don*, having quite recovered from the effects of their wounds, I caused Commander *Rowley Lambert* to proceed with them on the 23rd instant to *Arabat Fort*, under a flag of truce, for the purpose of offering to land them there if General *Wrangel* wished. The offer was accepted and the prisoners landed.

The squadron is now proceeding to *Ghenitch* to complete ammunition from the *Durham*, and I am in hopes that fine weather, which may be shortly expected by general account, will enable us to do more service in the coming month than that of the present one.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) SHERARD OSBORN.

Captain and Senior Officer.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edward
Lyons, Bart., &c., &c., &c.
G.C.B.

