

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 Temriouk, 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 Temriouk 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

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

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

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.*