



SUPPLEMENT  
TO  
**The London Gazette**

Of *TUESDAY* the 8th of *JANUARY*.

**Published by Authority.**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1856.

*War-Department, January 9, 1856.*

**L**ORD PANMURE has this day received two Despatches, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by General Sir William Codrington, K.C.B., and Lieutenant-General Vivian.

*Sevastopol, December 27, 1855.*

MY LORD,

YOUR Lordship has referred in several despatches to drunkenness in this Army. Reports of all sorts seem to have been circulated, statements read, descriptions made, until it was apparently believed that this Army was composed of drunkards, and immersed in riot and vice.

I took the opportunity of expressing myself strongly to your Lordship that this would prove not to be the truth.

I now state, in confirmation of this opinion, that returns are in my possession from every regiment of all cases of drunkenness tried by Court Martial, as well as those settled at the regimental orderly rooms for three months.\* It was during this time that arrears of field allowance, more than £2 each man, were received as back pay, besides 10,000 men receiving additional working pay; and yet the result is that, including Artillery, Sappers, and Infantry, the number of crimes of drunkenness (and these are many more than the men drunk), is a little above one man in two days per company, estimated at 100 men.

No doubt there are many facilities in all these open and crowded camps, for drunken men to get in without being seen. They do so, and escape observation. But suppose we double, or treble the amount of these numbers—which are taken from official returns,—and I suspect the Army will bear a comparison with many towns, many villages, many populations of Great Britain.

\* For September, October, and November.

It is easy to give—it is as easy to read, a minute, a ludicrous, or even a filthy description of a drunken man, and it seems seized upon as the type of the whole. The fathers, and mothers, and wives, and sisters in England, are fully persuaded we do nothing but drink, and the good character of the Army is forgotten in a few sketches from nature.

That such need not be the case with those who know anything about the matter, will, I think, be proved by the statement now made to your Lordship.

I have, &c.,

W. J. CODRINGTON,

General Commanding.

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

*Head Quarters, Ketch,*

*December 21, 1855.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE with much regret to report to you the death of Captain R. S. Sherwood, of the cavalry of this force.

This officer was engaged in a skirmish, that took place on the 16th instant, between a detachment of our cavalry and a party of Russian cavalry; his gallantry in this affair was most conspicuous, as is reported to me by the officer who commanded the detachment. Captain Sherwood was severely wounded, and was carried off by the Russians; and, as I have since learnt, died on the 19th from his wounds.

I deplore his loss, for he was an intelligent and very promising young officer.

I have reason to believe that the treatment he received from the Russians was most humane and considerate.

I have, &c.,

R. J. H. VIVIAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding

Turkish Contingent.

*The Right Honourable the Secretary  
of State, War Department.*

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