

any doubt should remain, I will subjoin abundant examples of men whose holiness renders them fit patterns for imitation, and who are among the lights of our faith.

Foremost I place Abraham, the father of all the faithful, and of the holy seed, Gen. xvi, 1, &c.; Jacob, chap. xxx, and, if I mistake not, Moses, Numb. xii, 1, "for he had married [a Cushite, Marginal Translation] an Ethiopian woman." It is not likely that the wife of Moses, who had been so often spoken of before by her proper name of Zipporah, should now be called by the new title of the Cushite; or that the anger of Aaron and Miriam should at this time be suddenly kindled, because Moses forty years before had married Zipporah; nor would they have acted thus scornfully towards one whom the whole house of Israel had gone out to meet on her arrival with her father Jethro. If then he married the Cushite during the lifetime of Zipporah, his conduct in this particular received the express approbation of God himself, who moreover punished with severity the unnatural opposition of Aaron and his sister.

Next I place Gideon, that signal example of faith and piety, Judg. vii, 30, 31, and Elkanah, a rigid Levite, the father of Samuel, who was so far from believing himself less acceptable to God on account of his double marriage, that he took with him his two wives every year to the sacrifices and annual worship, into the immediate presence of God. Nor was he therefore reproved, but went home blessed with Samuel, a child of excellent promise, 1 Sam. ii, 10.

Passing over several other examples, tho' numerous, such as Caleb, 1 Chron. ii, 46, vii, 1, 4; the sons of Issachar, in number six and thirty thousand men, for they had many wives and sons; contrary to the modern European practice, where in uncultivated land is suffered to remain uncultivated for want of population; and also Manasseh, the son of Joseph, 1 Chron. vii, 14; I come to the prophet David, whom God loved beyond all men, and who took two wives, besides Michal; and this not in a time of pride and prosperity, but when he was almost bowed down by adversity, and when, as we learn from many of the Psalms, he was entirely occupied in the study of the word of God and in the regulation of his conduct, 1 Sam. xxi, 42, 43, and afterwards, 2 Sam. v, 12, 13, "David perceived that Jehovah had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake; and David took him more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem."

Such were the motives, such the honorable and holy thoughts whereby he was influenced, namely by the consideration of God's kindness towards him for his people's sake. His heavenly and prophetic understanding saw not in that primitive institution what we in our blindness fancy we discern so clearly; nor did he hesitate to proclaim in the supreme council of the nation the pure and honorable motives to which, as he trusted, his children born in polygamy owed their existence, 1 Chron. xxi, 5, of all my sons, for Jehovah hath given me many sons, he hath chosen, &c.

I say nothing of Solomon, notwithstanding his wisdom, because he seems to have exceeded due bounds; altho' it is not objected to him that he had taken many wives, but that he had married strange women; 1 Kings xi, 1, Nohem. xiii, 26. His son Rehoboam desired many wives, not in the time of his iniquity, but during the three years in which he is said to have walked in the way of David, 2 Chron. xi, 17, 21, 23.

Of Josiah mention has already been made; who was induced to take two wives, not by licentious passion, or the wanton desire incident to uncontrolled power, but by the sanction and advice of a most wise and holy man, Jehoahaz the priest.

Who can believe, either that so many men of the highest character, should have kindred thro' ignorance for so many ages; or that their hearts should have been so hardened; or that God should have tolerated such conduct in his people? Let therefore the rule received among theologians have the same weight here as in other cases—"The practice of the saints is the best interpretation of the commandments."

EXTRACTS

From a Letter from Elder Jesse Haven, Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, Jan. 10, 1854.

My health has not been very good since hot weather began. I am weak, which is a common complaint of all here, who have come from a cold climate. I am frequently so weak after waking a mile that I am obliged to lie down. Sometimes while in my room reading, or writing, a weakness comes over me, with a trembling, and I am obliged to quit and go to bed.

Many of the English who come here take to drinking wine to cure their weakness; but the effects of it are similar to applying a whip to a weak horse. The native use wine, but not to that excess the English do. Many have told me that I use too much cold water; but I believe I shall try it a while longer, in preference to wine. Many good respectable Englishmen come here, and after they have been here a while, they are almost daily intoxicated. This is not all. A large portion of the men here, especially those who call themselves gentlemen, practise, not a plurality of wives, but a plurality of women, notwithstanding they are almost ready to cut the throats of the Latter Day Saints, and consign them to eternal hell fire and brimstone, for defending a doctrine which the ancient prophets practised with the approbation of God.

Many of the women here, as in many other places, would like to join the Latter Day Saints, if they held to a plurality of husbands, or men, instead of a plurality of wives. In many of the hot climates, the minds of the people are so weak, and their animal passions so preponderant, that it is frequently impossible to get them to give the subject of religion a serious thought.

Since hot weather commenced, we have not done much in spreading the gospel. It has been as much as we could do, owing to our own health and the debility of cold mind and body, to keep ourselves and the few we have baptized alive. We have had to discontinue six of the forty five we have baptized. They run well for a while, but they could not withstand the temptations that surrounded them.

I know the saint's appeal to the Healer and Answerer of prayer, for the elders of Israel who are laboring on foreign shores, seeking after the pearls of the human family amidst the filth and pollution of this world; and I ask the saints in the valleys to continue to pray to Him who never sleeps, that the "fishers" and "hunters" of the last days may be preserved from the wickedness, abominations, and corruptions that surround them on every hand; that their garments may remain unstained; that their hands clean and their hearts pure before Him whose eye can pierce all the creations which he has made.

My heart bleeds when I pass thro' the world and behold the degradation of the human family, and the wickedness of the darkest die at the altar of every street—pride, arrogance and treachery, stalking forth at midday, clothed with a sanctimonious and pharisaical garb. And when I consider the dark recesses and houses of infamy in the large cities and towns of the Old and New World, filled with the degradation of thousands of females who came into the world innocent, and might have been ornaments to society, had it not been for demons in human shape, whose study has been from the days of their childhood, how they could lead astray the innocent, virtuous and unprotected daughters of men.

I am not surprised, that when Enoch was

wrapped in a heavenly vision, and the Lord brought before him all the doings of the children of men, down to the Millennium, of Christ, as he looked down to the earth; he heard a voice from the bosom of the earth, saying, "Woe! woe! to the mother of wickedness of my children! When shall I rest, and be cleansed from the filthiness which I have gotten out of me! When will my Creator sanctify me, that I may rest, and righteousness for a season abide upon my face?"

Br. Leonard Smith is a good brother, trying and willing to do all he can to forward the work. Br. Walker has gone to Graham's Town, distance 600 miles. Br. John Wesley (Teacher) has gone with him.

ACCOUNT

Of a Pic-Nic Party by the Saints of Africa, at the Cape of Good Hope, Monday, Jan. 2d, 1854.

The Saints of Cape Conference, with a few others who were invited, numbering between 50 and 60, met in the evening, on the premises of brother Henry Stringer, for the purpose of spending the day in singing, oratory, speaking, feasting, rejoicing, and praying the Lord.

"The assembly was called to order at 11 o'clock, a.m., by Nicholas Paul, (Priest) who acted as Marshal of the Day, under the direction of Prest. Haven.

"The exercises commenced by singing. Prayer, by Elder Smith. Singing, Elder Smith gave a very interesting discourse on the gathering of Israel.

Prest. Haven made a very interesting, and appropriate address on the past, present, and future condition of the Saints of God. A collection was then taken for the benefit of Prest. Haven and Elder Smith. The Saints then sang, "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning." Benediction by Prest. Haven.

After a benediction, the Marshal seated the assembly at the table, which was abundantly spread with such eatables as the country afforded; having pure cold water for drink.

After dinner, for two or three hours, the time was spent in singing, conversing, and in innocent amusements; then all were refreshed by tea, and cakes, after which the Saints retired to their homes rejoicing, expressing their full satisfaction, and saying, that they never spent so happy a new year before.

THOMAS TREGIDA, Clerk.

Only a few months ago, I, with my brethren, landed here friendless, homeless, penniless, surrounded by mobs, and those who would spill our very heart's blood, if it was not for the laws of the land, and the protection the God of heaven had thrown around us. We now see gathered around us a few true hearted friends, who are ready to hearken to our counsel and receive instruction from our lips—willing to be guided by the Holy Priesthood, and willing to do all that lieth in their power, tho' poor, to make us comfortable.

I feel to bless and praise the Lord; his faithful care has been over me and tho' I am a foreign land, away from those I hold dear and dear upon the earth. I feel to rejoice and thank the Lord that I am considered worthy to bear the gospel of Christ to the nations of the earth; and my prayer is, that it may be my lot from this time forth, to point out the way of life and salvation to my fellow creatures, either in my native land, or in some foreign clime.

The few weeks I was in England, I enjoyed myself. I found the Saints there very kind. I am willing to labor where the Lord thro' his servant says; tho' a hot climate is not very congenial to my health; yet if the Lord wishes me to wear out my life on the deserts of Africa, amen to it. It matters but little where we are in this world, nor how soon we leave it, if we are only doing the will of God. I have no desire to stop in this life another day, unless I can do some good by so doing.

EXTRACTS

Of a letter from P. O. Hanson, to Prest. H. C. Kimball.

COPENHAGEN, May 6, 1854.

I often wish that you could get the news about what is going on abroad in the earth, as we do, but I hope you get it fast enough; and I hope the inhabitants of Zion are rejoicing because of their exceedingly great blessings and privileges, when they hear of the great increase of wars and commotions among the nations of the earth. My greatest sorrow is when I view the dullness, and indifference of many who have promised reform and faithfulness, and made covenant to that effect; but there are some who are wide awake, and exert themselves to learn their duties, and do them, and this gives us hope, that our toilsome labors will not be altogether fruitless. The Lord has hitherto heard my prayers and enabled me to persevere, notwithstanding my trials have been heavy enough to take me off from the face of the earth, had he not willed that I should live longer. And I must confess that I am often tempted to indulge in home sickness—longing for Zion—thinking of her tranquillity, her privileges and her intelligence, while all around me is darkness, preparations of war, pestilence, whoredom, and all manner of wickedness; with the exceptions of a few honest souls who are hungry after righteousness.

I have for a long time been very thoughtful and sober in my feelings, and how could I be otherwise so far from home, in the midst of such heartrending scenes as we see and hear all the time?

This city has assumed a rather warlike appearance of late, guards have been doubled, cannons mounted, ready for action, and all the forts and strong holds in Denmark, Norway and Sweden, have been put in readiness, with more men and heavier cannons. Nine ships of the Danish Navy are cruising, and watching what is going on; and a squadron of four ships of the Norwegian fleet has passed through the Baltic. Every thing indicates doubt and fear. While the British fleet was lying at anchor in the bay of Kioge, within sight of Copenhagen, I accompanied by Van Cott on a pleasure trip to sea the fleet, which was very interesting. We were permitted to go on board the Admiral's ship, which was a three decker with 130 cannons and 1000 men, who seemed cheerful and rejoicing, boasting of their matchless strength, notwithstanding the Almighty might in one hour send the whole to destruction. We went afterwards on board one of the Danish frigates, which now is sent to the Danish colonies in the West Indies.

We have had letters from our emigrants. They have had fair passages over the Atlantic, but suffered considerably from Cholera on the Mississippi river; the passage being very slow because of very low water.

As to the work of the Lord in Denmark, I can say it is going ahead pretty fast in most places, and also in Norway and Sweden, notwithstanding the great difficulties in these two kingdoms. Since last October Conference there has been baptized in Denmark 506; in Norway 55; and in Sweden 64. As to Iceland the prospects are very dull at present.

Elder Hogan has newly paid us a short visit, he seemed like a young man, full of vigor and faith.

LETTER

From Elder N. V. Jones.

No. 2, JUAN BAZAR, Calcutta, April 2, 1854.

EDITOR OF THE NEWS:—

Sir,—With much pleasure I embrace the present opportunity of reporting the progress of the work of the Lord, in this part of the vineyard.

Since the account which I sent you, on the sixth of October 1853, there has been much done towards warning the people. Our labors have been vigilant and extensive. We continued the distribution of tracts in Calcutta, which has busily occupied the time of not less than five elders, visiting the people from house to house, preaching and bearing testimony of the truth for nearly four months, until the people have set their hearts against the message of salvation.

During the winter we have delivered three courses of lectures. They were but poorly attended, averaging generally from six to eight,

exclusive of the Saints. The papers have generally been silent upon the subject of "Mormonism," except the Citizen, which commenced an attack upon us. They were however honorable enough to admit of a rejoinder to their first two letters. They were then told by the clergy, that a newspaper was not the proper place to discuss revealed truth, so of course their columns were closed against us, they refused to publish two communications from us.

It has been the studied object of the priests, since our arrival in the land, to prevent us from getting access to the people, which they have accomplished to their hearts desire, by sending to every military station throughout India, warning the people, to be aware of blasphemous Mormonism, telling them not to receive us into their houses, or read our works, and the people are so completely priest-ridden, that they do not think and act for themselves. Within the last five months, J. P. Meik has been rendering some assistance to a native in translating a portion of the life of Joseph, viz, that part of it embracing the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, and the organization of the Church; also a summary of the first principles, and doctrines of the Church, which are now nearly ready for the press. It will be a work of about one hundred and fifty pages, Hindustanee. We have also commenced the translation of the Book of Mormon, which will take some months to complete.

In October, 1853, Br. Robert Owens sailed for Madras, to join the elders of that place, and on the first of January 1854, brs. Leonard and Musser sailed for Bombay, to co-operate with Br. Findley.

Brus. Woolley and Fotheringham have been for the last six months in the North-western Provinces, endeavoring to obtain a footing in that quarter; they went as high up as Kadrail, a distance of one thousand miles from Calcutta, visiting all the intermediate stations; the principle of which are Meerut, Delhi, Agra, Cawnpore, Allahabad, and Benares. In every place they announced their meetings by circulars, placards, and the free distribution of tracts. In some places a few came out to hear them once or twice; at others, they would not give them any hearing whatsoever. In this manner they have traveled, visited, and warned the people of Upper India; often having to lie in old dilapidated buildings, and exposed to all the inclemencies of an unhealthy climate. Besides having to struggle against the bitter, and cold hearted prejudice of a corrupt, polluted, and degraded people, until we feel justified in saying, "they have rejected the counsel of God," and we now leave the result in His hands.

We have news from Bombay, bearing date, March 6, but little of interest with them. Brs. Leonard and Musser had started for Karachi, which is about nine hundred miles to the North-west of Bombay, situated near the mouth of the Indus.

Br. Hugh Findley is going to Belgium, which is the next place of importance in the Bombay Presidency, where he designs publishing a treatise on the first principles of the gospel in the Maratee language; also the Book of Mormon if circumstances will permit. The branch in Bombay and Poona, numbers about ten members, six Elders, two Priests, and one Teacher. Br. Ballantyne writes from Madras, March 6, promising to begin to brighten with them. During the month of February they baptized four. They have passed through many hardships in laying a foundation in that place. Surely the Lord is proving his servants, as well as the people. He expects to start a Monthly periodical there soon, devoted to the dissemination of our doctrines.

Br. Skelton is learning the Tamil language, and hopes to soon commence his labors amongst the natives. The branch in that place numbers about seven members, and three Elders.

Br. McCune writes from Rangoon, March 4, matters are rather at a stand with them for the present. Br. Willis is now with them, and will remain there for a short time, when I expect he will be relieved by an elder from this place. The branch in Burmah, numbers eight members, four Elders, one Priest, and one Teacher, and has three places of preaching. Elder Levi Savage, junr., has been in Moulemein, Burmah, for the last six months; he is studying the Burmah language, and thinks the prospects are favorable for doing a good work with the natives, and expects to commence his labors soon.

The branch in Calcutta, numbers 26 members, five Elders, and one Priest, eight of whom have been added by baptism within the last six months; which shows an aggregate of 51 members, 19 Elders, four Priests, and two Teachers; add to this about eight scattering members, and you will see the fruits of our labors in India. As regards our future prospects I can say but little, but trust in the Lord that we may be able to bring a few more to the knowledge of the truth in this dark and dreary land. I am now making my calculations to emigrate the Saints from here agreeable to instruction given in the Tenth General Epistle. We do not expect to sail before the next cold weather. The Saints are mostly poor, and we do not know it present how we shall get away, but as soon as we get our plans matured, we will let you know.

In the mean time, by the help of the Lord we will finish the translations already commenced, and publish them. The Saints are rejoicing in the blessings of the gospel, and thank the Lord that they were ever sent to this land, and will hail with joy the day of their departure from it.

Br. Wm. Fotheringham, will leave here for England, as soon as the opening of the season. Br. C. W. West and B. F. Devey sailed from Calcutta, in January last, for Singapore; I expect they have arrived there before this. Br. Ludington arrived there about the first of March, and expected to start for Banook, the capital of Siam, in a few days.

July 24th at Payson.

PAYSON, July 26, 1854.

EDITOR NEWS:—We held a celebration at this place on the 24th of July. The break of day was welcomed by the firing of musketry. At sunrise our Fort was surrounded by the Payson musicians.

At 8 o'clock the people assembled at the Bawery which was prepared for the occasion, in the north west corner of the Fort. After the arrival of the Springfield Brass Band, and Dr. D. C. Howell in behalf of the Mormon Battalion.

Songs, Toasts, &c., with music from the Springfield Band.

The procession again formed and marched to the Bawery, where about five hundred persons partook of an excellent dinner. After the citizens arose, about 40 or 50 of our red neighbors sat down, and enjoyed a feast.

Music, dancing, and dramatic performances, delightfully closed the highly gratifying festivities of the day.

JAMES E. DANIELS, B. F. STEWART, C. B. HANCOCK, W. M. HEAD, W. M. MAXWELL, Com. of Arrangements.

From Iron County.

PAROWAN, U. T., July 17, 1854.

MR. EDITOR:—All is peace and prosperity in Iron county at present, and the Indians appear friendly as usual. Our crops look well considering the dryness of the season, as there has been but very little rain since seed time.

The wall around Parowan is progressing finely, and several portions of it are nearly completed.

Yours in haste: J. C. L. SMITH.

IF a man of wit once said rightly enough:—"He who finds a good son-in-law, gains a son; he who finds a bad one, loses a daughter."

THE WAR.

From the Herald of June 10th.

It is reported that the Russians unable because of the blockade, to defend the Circassian seaboard, had evacuated their positions from Batou to Anapa, a distance of 200 leagues. They burned all their own force and retired to Kutais, in the interior. The Circassians came down from the mountains and took possession of all the posts which the Russians had occupied, making prisoners of 1500 men, whom they surprised at Sakum-Kalei. The Circassians had proclaimed a provisional government, under the presidency of a brother-in-law of Shmyl.

The rebellion in Thessaly is said to be gaining ground again. The French steamer Comer had brought four piratical vessels into Rhodes. The "Greece Zefing" says that the ultimatum to Greece demands the observance of a strict neutrality, and punishment of all those who have joined the rebellion; the immediate recall of all civil and military officers who have joined it, and the refusal to re-admit into the public service those who had resigned office or left to join the insurgents. If these categorical demands are not granted by the 23d, the throne to be declared vacant and a new government established.

The William Rodrick, whose crew were imprisoned at Revel, has been released, and has sailed for England.

The correspondent of the Agram Gazette, who wrote on the 11th, says that a fight had come off in the Vassov district between the Montenegrins and the Turks, in which the latter were victorious. The former left eight men dead on the field and fled with the conviction at the same time that the Christian population had no sympathy for them; and even if they had, no arms to display it, for they on the other hand, had any arms to spare.

The evacuation of the Little Wallachia had made a profound sensation among the Christians of the Herzegovina and Bosnia.

The Wanderer says that the Turks are masters of the islands above and below the mouth of the Aluta. It is also reported that they are in possession of Turku, which they are entreaching, so as to make of it a second Kalafat.

In the Jalamiti district, the peasants have burned all the hay-stacks collected by the Russians for the use of their cavalry.

A telegraphic dispatch via Hermausstadt from Bucharest, of the 19th, states that the Russians since the 18th had unexpectedly suspended their cannonade against Silistria. One explanation of this may come from the circumstance that the vanguard of General Luder's, about the 13th, had performed at the hands of a Turkish division a defeat, accompanied with very serious loss. General Luder shall evacuate the Turkish territory, and accordingly a draft of a note to Russia has been sent by the Vienna Conference to Berlin, for approval of the Prussian Government.

According to advice from Frankfurt, the Ministers of Austria and Prussia have presented to the Diet the joint declaration of Austria and Prussia, announcing the continued cordiality of the Four Powers, and declaring that the prolongation of the struggle between Russia and Turkey continues a danger to Germany. After submitting the declaration, five protocols of the Vienna Conference were laid before the Diet. The Austro-Prussian treaty was notified to the assembly, and the other German States were invited to adhere to it.

Edward Thornton, British Secretary of Legation at Mexico, is appointed British Charge d'Affairs and Consul-General to New Grenada.

An English division was sent to Constantinople for Varan, and the French force was to march to the Balkans on the 25th. The Russians were maneuvering to cut off the communication between Varan and Silistria. On the 11th the combined fleets were still cruising before Sebastopol.

Gen. Forey's division (French) left Malta 22d, in 14 steamers, to take possession of Athens. A report was current in well informed circles at Paris, that France will augment her army in Turkey to 170,000 men, in order to carry on the war with vigor, particularly as no complaints about sacrifices which the country must make are to be heard anywhere.

WALLACHIA.

The Prussian Correspondence says that Prince Paskiewitch has issued orders to Gen. Danenberg to suspend the evacuation of the western portion of Great Wallachia, and that the latter has been reinforced, so as to enable him to defend the line from the Aluta to Ialomitza. It is also said that Gen. Danenberg is ordered to cross the Aluta (evidently for the purpose of driving off some of Omar Pasha's troops from the center). Gen. Luder's, it is added, has advanced with 32,000 men within two cannon shot of Silistria. The free corps are to be reorganized.

SILISTRIA.

A telegraphic dispatch from Bucharest, of the 20th inst., states that an encounter took place on the 18th, on the road from Rascova to Silistria, and that the Ottomans retreated to Silistria. Bridges were thrown over the river on the following day, and three Russian divisions crossed; so that Silistria is now enclosed on all sides by the Russians.

[The above dates are of May.]

From the Liverpool Times, May 27.

We regret to say that the report which we gave last week of the capture of the Tiger by the Russians, at Odessa, has turned out to be but too true. For several days the report was almost wholly discredited, but subsequent authentic accounts confirm the fact. It seems that the Tiger was in chase of a Russian vessel which took refuge in quarantine harbor, while her Majesty's ship captured about four miles from Odessa, at Pantana Farm. The Russian soldiers immediately surrounded her in overwhelming numbers. Captain Gifford lost one of his legs, and a midshipman both legs, and five seamen were wounded. The Russians had 2 killed, and several wounded. Finally the ship surrendered, and two hundred and twenty six prisoners were captured by the Russians. As the vessel could not be got off, she was set on fire and sunk the same day—previous to which the Russians carried her guns as trophies to Odessa.

From the Cincinnati Gazette, June 22d.

From Vienna, May 31, it is stated that on June 2d, the Austrian army was to evacuate the Turkish territory would be sent to St. Petersburg.

Letters from Belgrade and Widdin, state that Austrian troops were continuing coming down the Danube, in the direction of Orsova, and the Wallachian frontier. Considerable forces are now concentrated in Hungary and Transylvania. Another dispatch says, "Austria sends troops to Orsova."

THE BALTIC.

We have no further operations in the Baltic. There is no authentic statement of the extent or result of the recent attack on the forts of Rango. The Russian account in the Invalids Russ is as follows:

"The English fleet, twenty six strong, battered the outskirts of Hango Udo, on the 28th, but were compelled to withdraw, much damaged."

(A doubtful) dispatch from Copenhagen states that Gustafverson was cannonaded on Monday, 22d, without effect.

Advices by letter are of date 28th, from Copenhagen. They state that on the 21st, Sir Charles Napier lay before Hango Point, and was preparing to bombard the fortress of Gustafverson. Admiral Plumridge with the flying squadron, had been sent on special service to the Gulf of Bothnia. Admiral Corry lay at Gottsche, Sandoe. Stockholm letters of the 23d, mention nothing of Napier having captured Gustafverson.

Reports from Finland are of May 18, via Stockholm. Wyborg had been declared in a state of siege and great energy was displayed in strengthening the citadel, which is not very strong. Some hundreds of citizens were compelled to work at the fortifications. Feared were expressed of a landing from Napier's fleet, Wyborg being but eighteen miles distant from St. Petersburg.

The arrival of a regiment of Cosaks of the Don, had added to the general excitement. A part of the Swedo-Norwegian fleet was to quit Elfsanden on the 18th, to cruise in the Baltic.

GALLANT EXPLOIT AT HANGO.

The Arrogant has been detached from the fleet for a considerable time, employed in reconnoiter-

ing the enemy's posts and shores about Hango Bay. While so employed, the Hecla, commanded by Captain Hall, whose services in the China war are so well known, joined her. Both ships planned a little expedition of their own which has turned out quite a brilliant maneuver.

The two ships proceeded up a narrow river, and on anchoring on the evening of the 19th inst., the enemy, from behind a sand bank, in a thickly wooded place, fired upon one of the boats, which was at that time pulling at a distance of from 6 to 800 yards from the shore, round shot also striking the Hecla. Both ships beat to quarters, cast loose their guns, loaded with shot and shell, which they poured into the wood and against the barricade, whence the enemy was quickly dislodged. The vessels were not further molested that evening; the anchorage was shifted for the night, and all made snug, with watches posted.

At 12 in the morning both ships again weighed, the Hecla leading, both ships' companies standing by their guns. After about three hours quietly feeling their way along the intricate navigation of the river, both ships came suddenly within range of an enemy's battery. The Hecla opened fire, which was quickly answered from the fort. The promontory upon which stood the battery, was crowded with soldiers—five, stalwart looking fellows, with long grey coats, and spiked steel helmets glittering in the sun.

While the battery was firing upon the Hecla, the Arrogant lay a whole broadside against the enemy. A troop of horse artillery, when the smoke cleared off, was observed scampering away. A prolonged and heavy fire of musketry now ensued from the wood and Minie balls fell thick on board both ships. The Arrogant now got aground, within twenty yards of the battery. However, before attempting to haul the ship off, the enemy's guns were dismantled by a broadside, and the ships then got off in safety. On passing the fort, the guns had been dismantled, a terrible sight was witnessed—gun carriages blown to fragments, more dismounted helmets and knapsacks thrown about without owners.

The town of Eckmans now opened, and three lay the ships, the objects of the expedition. The Arrogant was obliged to anchor here, as the water was shallow. The Hecla proceeded on, but another battery now opened fire upon her. The Arrogant swung broadside on, kept up a cannonade, while the Hecla passed, firing shells on the enemy as she did so, ran up alongside of a bark, took her in tow, and steamed away with her, to the horror of the inhabitants.

When this little expeditionary force was returning, they were joined by the Danubius—who having been sent off by the commander-in-chief to ascertain the cause and source of the firing—which was distinctly audible as the squadron steamed into Hango roads. The Hecla had covered all shots thro' her funnel, steam pipe, and hull—one shot passing thro' the ship's side. The shot and shell went over the Arrogant. Both ships were studded with Minie balls. The Arrogant had one man shot thro' the heart, and a man wounded by a bullet. The Hecla had one man shot or drowned while wounded.

Captain Hall was resolved not to leave without carrying back some military trophy. He gallantly landed with his marines, threw them out as skirmishers, with himself and a party of men placed one gun (an iron one) into his boat, and hoisted it on board the Hecla.

The Arrogant and Hecla, with their prize in tow, joined the fleet on the 21st. The Commander-in-Chief hoisted the signal, "Well done, Arrogant and Hecla." The flag ship manned the rigging; her example was followed by several other ships—all of whom gave the heroes three hearty cheers.

THE SIEGE OF SILISTRIA.

The following semi-official announcement appears in the Paris Monitor:

"A communication from Belgrade, by telegraph dated May 29, states that the Russians have attacked Silistria with all the disposable forces they had upon that point. This attack, directed simultaneously from the Danube and by land, was repulsed four times, and four times repulsed by the besieged. It is stated that Omar Pasha is preparing to go to the assistance of the place. The resistance of Silistria continued with success on the 26th May."

Turkish accounts, thro' Vienna, state that on the 27th the fortress still defended itself bravely, and the news of a disposition to treat on the part of the Turks was altogether false. The word "capitulation" had never been uttered. There were 90,000 (?) Russians around Silistria.

Operations from the islands of the Danube were again suspended, in consequence of the height of the river. The Danubius was down to the fortifications by the Kambarado, where were repaired almost as much as possible. The Russians, at the demand of the Turks, have promised not to direct their fire on the hospitals.

The Vienna Post states that immediately after the conference with the French and English commanders, Omar Pasha advanced towards Silistria, with 90,000 men in two columns. His right wing leant on the heights near the Jaban, and his left on the river Driste. We may therefore expect news soon of a great battle.

On the 26th, the Russians failed in an attempt to force the passage of the Danube at Turku, Simutza, and Gurgievo. On the 30th they were repulsed in an attack on one of the detached forts of Silistria. The Russians admit that the place may hold out two or three weeks longer. By that time it will probably be relieved by Omar Pasha.

Latest accounts do not mention the personal presence of Prince Paskiewitch before Silistria. He had ordered Gen. Gortschakoff, with all his Koraks, to march to Silistria with the artillery of reserve; but the General, being kept in check by Omar Pasha, had not been able to effect that movement. So late as May 26, the communications were open between Silistria and Shumla.

The French papers discuss the probabilities of Silistria holding out, and come to the conclusion that it is not imminent.

According to Russian advice, the Turks have evacuated Turku, Nicolopoli, and Sietown, and the Russians have occupied those places.

From Szamla, 26th May, it was telegraphed that Gen. Paskiewitch had countermanded the reinforcements ordered from Bucharest and Ibrail. This had given rise to a report that he intended to raise the siege of Silistria.

Skander Bey, on the 22d, had a rencontre with the Russians near Turku, and had sent in many prisoners to Kalafat.