

THE WAR.

General Pelissier telegraphed Aug. 24: "Last night we carried an ambuscade on the glacis of the Malakhoff; five hundred Russians made a sortie to retake it, but were brilliantly repulsed with a loss of about three hundred men. The work has been turned, and remains definitely ours. General MacMahon has arrived. The health of the army is excellent."

PARIS, Monday.

The Moniteur announces that the following telegraphic dispatch has been received from General Pelissier:

"CRIMEA, Aug. 31.—All goes on well. Everything advances. We are making progress."

Sept. 1st. He says:—"Last night the enemy made a sortie from the Redan, and destroyed some gabions. They were driven back."

Constantinople letters of 23d Aug., by the Thabor, say Lord de Redcliffe was to leave for Balaklava, and Omer Pasha would embark for Asia.

The Russians were repulsed before Kars, on the 4th of August, on attacking a battery.

Odesa accounts state that thousands of Russians were busy fortifying and intercepting the passes connected with the Patrid Sea. Neutral vessels are allowed to load grain at Ismail.

The Crimea letters to August 21st have arrived.

The Times says:—"The fire which opened Aug. 17th was slackened on the 20th. Our fire assisted the progress of the French works considerably. The distance of the latter from the Malakhoff is very short. Our loss during the bombardment has not been heavy. It does not exceed 250 hors de combat beyond the usual average daily loss in the trenches. Both the Redan and the Malakhoff have a very battered appearance. The Russian loss on the 19th must have been considerable. One of the guns of the Naval Brigade now commands the Mole head and a bridge across the creek, and will force the Russians to land their stores elsewhere."

Preparations were being made to receive another Russian attack. The Army Works Corps had arrived; they would be employed on the rail road and water supply. The French batteries fired heavily on the 21st.

General Simpson has issued an order cautioning officers and others against plundering the dead, or purchasing plunder from others. Grave remonstrances had been made on the subject by our Allies after the recent action. All property found on the field belongs to the victorious party, and for any one else to appropriate it is dishonor.

THE BALTIC.

In a Russian official version of the gun-boat affair at Riga it is asserted that some shell forced the British ships to retire.

DANTZIG, August 31.

The English Ambassador at Stockholm has informed Admiral Dundas that the Russians lost upwards of 2,000 men at Sweaborg. The terrific explosion which took place at noon on the first day blew up the magazines, containing the entire stock of shells, and 600 men were killed by it. Every magazine in the place was destroyed, and immense stores of cordage, ropes, tar, and other naval supplies. The large Russian man-of-war which was anchored in the passage between the East Islands, to the north of the Fortress, had her side blown out, and fourteen or fifteen different descriptions of vessels lying inside the dockyard basins were destroyed entirely.

The Vulture struck on a rock off Hango, remained thirteen hours, and is said to be seriously damaged. The Dragon had also been on shore, but sustained little injury.

The Baltic fleet has been ordered to withdraw from before Constantia. The disabled gun-boats only are as yet retreating home.

Official returns show that up to the 29th August 298,000 officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, with 28,000 horses, have been embarked at Marseilles and at Toulon for the East since the commencement of the war. They were at that date collected in the artillery ground near the Jettie above 500,000 bomb shells.

FIGHTING ON THE TCHERNAYA.

"Before Sevastopol, August 18.

"My Lord,—In my despatch of the 14th inst. I informed your lordship that I had reason to believe that the Russians would attempt, by a vigorous attack, to force us to raise the siege. This they endeavored to do on the morning of the 16th, but the result was most glorious to those of the allied troops who had the good fortune to be engaged.

The action commenced before daylight, by a heavy column of Russians, under the command of General Liandra, and composed of the 6th and 17th divisions, with the 4th and 7th divisions in reserve, attacking the advanced posts of the Sardinians. The ground occupied by them is on commanding hills on the right of the position, on the left bank of the Souhai river, where it forms its junction with the Tchernaya, with two advanced posts on the opposite side. These were held with determined gallantry for a considerable time, but, being separated from their supports on the river, and not having the protection of artillery, they were compelled to leave the most advanced one.

About the same time the 5th and 12th divisions to which was added a portion of the 17th, advanced against the bridge of Traktir, held by our battalions of French infantry of the line, who were for a short time obliged to yield and fall back upon the main supports; with these, however, they quickly retook the bridge at the point of the bayonet.

Again the Russians attacked, with persevering courage, and were enabled to follow up their advantage by gaining the heights which rise precipitously on each side of the road; their success was but momentary; they were driven back

across the river, leaving the ground covered with dead and wounded.

The Russian general, in no way daunted by the failure of his two attempts, ordered a second column, of equal force as the first, to attack; they advanced with such impetuosity, covered by the fire of their numerous artillery, that a third time the bridge was carried, and the heights above it crowned, but they were again repulsed, and retired in great confusion into the plain, followed by the bayonets of our gallant allies.

The general officer who commanded the Russian column, and who is supposed to be General Read, was killed, and in his possession was found the orders for the battle, signed by Prince Gortschakoff, who commanded in person. From these it would appear that it was a most determined attempt to force us to raise the siege. Had they succeeded, Balaklava was to have been attacked by one portion of their army, while the heights on which we now are were to have been stormed with the other; at the same time a vigorous sortie was to have been made from the town on the French works on our extreme left from the Quarantine, and another on the works on our extreme right on mount Saponne.

The action which I have endeavored to describe is most glorious to the arms of the French and Sardinian troops. To meet the force of the Russians the former had but 12,000 infantry, and four batteries of artillery engaged; the latter had 10,000 men in position, 4,500 actually engaged, and 24 pieces of cannon.

The Russian force consisted of from 50,000 to 60,000 men, with 160 pieces of artillery, and cavalry to the amount of 6,000. This disparity of numbers will readily explain to your lordship the difficulty that would have been experienced had an attempt been made to follow up the advantage by a pursuit. The Russian retreat, moreover, was protected by the fire from the heavy guns in position on the Mackenzie heights.

The loss sustained by the Russians is estimated at between 5,000 and 6,000 men, including 600 prisoners, while on the part of the allies it does not amount to more than 1,000 men.

This brilliant affair has caused the greatest delight among the ranks of the allied army; and while it adds fresh lustre to the gallant achievements of the French arms, it is with the utmost pleasure that I have to record the intrepid conduct and gallant bearing of the Sardinian troops, under General Della Marmora, who have for the first time met, conquered, and shed their blood against our common enemy who is now disturbing the peace of Europe. Captain Mowbray's battery of 32-pounder howitzers was placed in advance with the Sardinian troops, and did most excellent service in preventing the advance of the enemy's artillery.

Our cavalry, under Lieutenant-General Sir J. Scarlett, 1. C. B., was placed in the plain of Balaklava, prepared to take advantage of any circumstance that might present itself, but the opportunity did not arise for calling upon their services.

I regret that I am unable to give a more detailed account of the part performed by the Sardinians, as up to this time I have not received General Della Marmora's report.—I have, &c.

JAMES SIMPSON, General Commanding.

General Pelissier, in his despatch respecting the battle on the Tchernaya, after going into particulars of the Russian attack, says:—

"As the enemy withdrew, for a moment I felt inclined to order a portion of the cavalry to charge to cut down the remnant of the 17th Russian division between the Tchoulion and Traktir bridges. With this object in view I had prepared some squadrons of Chasseurs d'Afrique, who were joined by some Sardinian squadrons and by one of General Scarlett's regiments, the 12th Lancers (from India.) But the retreat of the Russians was so prompt that we could only have made a small number of prisoners, and this finally cavalry might have been reached by some of the enemy's batteries still in position. I deemed it preferable not to expose it for so small a result. General Della Marmora did not, moreover, stand in need of this support boldly to retake the advanced positions which his small posts occupied on the heights of Tchoulion.

Our losses are, doubtless, to be regretted, but they are not in proportion to the results obtained and to those we have inflicted upon the enemy. We have 8 superior officers wounded, 9 subaltern officers killed and 53 wounded, 172 non-commissioned officers and soldiers killed, 146 missing, and 1,163 wounded. The Russians have left 490 prisoners in our hands. The number of their killed may be estimated at more than 3,000, and of their wounded at more than 5,000, of which number 1,626 men and 28 officers have been taken to our ambulances. Among the slain I found by us are the bodies of two generals, whose names I have not been able to ascertain.

The Sardinian army, which fought so valiantly at our side, has about 250 hors de combat. It inflicted a much greater loss upon the enemy. One hundred prisoners and about 150 wounded remained in its hands.

I am sorry to announce to your excellency that General Della Marmora has informed me that General Count de Mont-vecchio, whose character and talents he greatly appreciated, was killed gloriously at the head of his brigade.

I must point out to your excellency the rapidity with which General Scarlett's cavalry, placed at my disposal by General Simpson, came up. The martial appearance of those magnificent squadrons betrayed an impatience which the happy and prompt result of the battle did not allow me to gratify. The English and Sardinian position batteries and the Turkish battery which Osman Pasha had sent to Alson fired with great precision and success.

I thanked Osman Pasha for the promptitude with which he sent me six Turkish battalions under Sefer Pasha (General Koscielzki) four of which during the day occupied the passages near Tchergoun.

I send your excellency with this report the

copy of the plan for the battle of the 16th, found upon the body of a Russian general, supposed to be General Read, who commanded the enemy's right, and was especially intrusted with the attack on Traktir bridge.

INCIDENTS AFTER THE BATTLE.

[Correspondent of the 'Daily News,' as found in the 'Liverpool Albion' of Sept. 3d.]

Nothing now remains but to visit the field of battle, on which the Zouaves had already descended like vultures, and were removing everything portable.

The scene which presented itself on the banks of the river, below the canal, was something fearful beyond description, much more fearful than the ordinary horrors of a battle-field.

The canal itself was choked with dead, most of whom had doubtless fallen into it living, after rolling down the hill side, and found repose in its muddy waters; broken muskets, bags of bread, cartridges, one dark red stain on the white chalky gravel, often along marked the spot where the men first fell; in a moment afterwards tumbled back to perdition.

Many had fallen, after scrambling up to the brink of the aqueduct, and ere they had time to cross it, and if not caught in the bushes, rolled into the plain, breaking their bones in the descent, and lay there as we passed, shrieking in agony, and imploring us to kill them and thus put an end to their suffering.

Never did eye rest upon humanity in forms so mutilated, defaced, and disfigured as the unhappy wretches, who lay writhing there in their bloody rags, their faces so plastered over with gore and dust that neither wife nor mother would ever have recognized son or husband in those hideous masses of mortality.

Some, but they were a small minority, sought to drag themselves to the shade of the few bushes that skirted the river; some sought to hide their heads from the fiery heat of the mid-day sun under their tattered garments, and others lay with faces upturned and gasping, their limbs still trembling in the last quiver, and the flies already beginning in their wounds.

Men shot down by any sort of missile, and lying where they fell, gory and mutilated though they may be, is a sight to which one soon gets habituated, but wounded men who have been rolled over a rough soil, and their bones broken in their progress, is one of those sights that one rarely witnesses, and which he who has once seen it never wishes to see more."

On towards the bridge the dead lay thicker and thicker. On the banks of the river about it, and in the river itself, they were "heaped and piled," mostly fine men, in the prime of life—many with a *vieux grognard* air, which bespoke long years of service. Nearly every one had a brandy bottle either actually in his hand, or lying near him, or broken under him in his fall.

I was riding with a Polish officer, who conversed with a great many of the wounded, who informed us that large quantities of brandy had been served out to the soldiers before the action, except the artillerymen.

There were a great many small platforms lying about, some resembling ladders with the rungs very close, and carried by rope-slings attached to each end, as bridges to be thrown across the aqueduct. The great majority, however, passed without them.

The Zouaves had made a general collection of crosses, relics, and medals, and retained them to the victors, in addition to which pickings from the dead bodies, they made small collections of money from the persons of the wounded, managing dexterously to extract it from the inside of the trousers close to the knee, where the Russian soldiers generally carry their money, while pretending to examine into the nature of their wounds, thus avoiding giving any mental pain to the sufferers. Some very fine rifles, quite new, and now seen for the first time, were found on the field, but were instantly taken possession of by the military authorities, and the sale prohibited.

A letter from the Crimea, respecting the battle on the Tchernaya, appears in Sumner's News, from which the following is an extract:—

"The same ghastly heaps of mangled corpses—the same fearful number of wounded—lay around on all sides as did at Alma and Inkerman. Accoutrements, rifles, swords, and all the paraphernalia of war, were scattered in profusion over the blood-stained ground.

Here might be seen some unhappy Russian dragging himself to the stream to quench his burning thirst, and then to lie down and die. Others, helpless, were imploring water; while some in despair laid themselves down in submission to their fate.

When the enemy advanced in columns, the dead lay heaped over each other; numbers, too, lay in the river, whose waters, perhaps, had terminated the work of death the bullet had left unfinished.

Most of the dead had been stripped of boots and drawers, when they were of any use to the victors. In one spot lay the headless body of the Russian General, all but his white drawers and great coat removed.

Conspicuous for his bravery, he had fallen amongst the foremost, and his broad shoulder cords, his gold buttons, and his trousers had soon been seized upon as prizes.

Even where so many men lay dead and dying no one could look without pity on the many wounded horses, who lay or stood on all parts of the field; a few when their torture was terminated by a pistol ball, their bodies added to the already dreadful collection, which must soon render their air intolerable. Already, but a few hours after death, the bodies are swollen dreadfully, and fastened on by myriads of flies.

The French and Sardinian ambulances have been busily engaged in removing the wounded; but it is a tedious task, and the night must close on many lying still in their agony unheeded, undergoing the fearful fate of vanquished soldiers. A great deal was done to relieve the misery of the wounded by giving them water and some food,

and foremost in this duty, as ever foremost in the fray, might be seen some brawny Zouave with surprising gentleness raising the head of a poor Russian on some temporary pillow, easing the position of his shattered limbs, or fetching a supply of water from the stream to lessen his miseries by some slight degree.

As the afternoon wore on the battle field became covered with people from all quarters of the camp, most of them, officers and men, alike anxious to procure some souvenir of the action.—Swords, bayonets, and pouches were carried off in great quantities, and the metals and charms generally found on the dead Russians were soon appropriated.

Most of the men were confined to their camps, still a large number managed to escape to the scene of action, and 'batmen' might be seen galloping over the field in search of plunder, merciless to the wretched wounded and to their masters' horses alike, forming, with the numerous officers and men around, a crowd too conspicuous to escape the enemy's notice, and many shots were fired at the groups."

SWEABORG.

The Invalide Russe publishes at length an official report from General de Berg, commander of the Russian forces in Finland, of the bombardment of Sweaborg on the 9th. It is an exceedingly long document, a great part of it being filled up with praises of the conduct of the Russian troops.

After detailing the manner in which the Allied fleets took up position in front of the fortress, the report states that every time one of the enemy's vessels passed the general line in which they were all drawn up, she was met by such a well-directed fire from the fortifications as to be sure to be much damaged, and in that manner the Allies, it asserts, must have suffered greatly. The report then proceeds as follows:—[Liverpool Albion.]

"Soon after the enemy had opened fire, a considerable conflagration broke out in the fortress, and continued without interruption, notwithstanding all the efforts of the firemen, fed as it was by an incessant bombardment by day, and congregate rockets during the night."

When ever the fire caught a fresh building the enemy redoubled their efforts, nevertheless, the storehouses for the service of the troops were saved, as also the officers' barracks along the curtain, and the one of four stories. The powder magazines resisted to the last moment, except four small depots of loaded shells on the island of Gustavs-Ward.

On the 9th, about noon, a shell fell upon one of these depots and caused it to explode, the others, being close to it, exploded in consequence, and nearly all at the same moment—Providentially these explosions cost us but one man killed and three wounded.

The violent bombardment of the fortress continued without interruption for twenty-four hours, when it slackened about nightfall; but soon after recommenced with fresh vigor, and then at intervals the enemy plied us with congregate rockets to keep up the fire and cause it to spread.

During this bombardment the enemy attempted to approach the islands of Skansland and Koughsholmen, situated near the fortress, as also the entrenchment of Longern, the battery Nicholas, and the Ezechiel man-of-war, but they were effectually prevented by the well-directed fire of the batteries.

On this occasion the entrenchment on the island of Skansland fired with extraordinary success, and did not allow the gun boats to come near enough to enfilade the right flank of the Cestern battery. The Russian man-of-war, that lay opposite the straits of Gustavs-Ward, in order to enfilade them, could bring but a few of her pieces to bear on the enemy on account of her position, while, being in the line of the projectiles thrown against the fortress and the island of Skansland, she was hulled very often, some of the enemy's shells, of an enormous calibre, penetrated through her decks, and one of them even reached her powder-magazine; she only owed her safety to the wise precautions taken by her commandant, Captain Paplusk, and to the presence of mind of Lieut. Popoff, who, with the men stationed near the powder magazine, put out the fire immediately after the explosion of the shell.

The report speaks as follows of the results of this bombardment:

"With the exception of some fire, which it was impossible to prevent, the damage which this bombardment of forty-eight hours caused to the works of the fortress and batteries has been but slight.

According to a moderate computation, the enemy threw 1,000 projectiles against the island of Drumsoe; 17,000 against Sweaborg; and 3,000 against the island of Sandham. Yet, in spite of that fire, our loss in men has been only 4 killed, and 5 officers and 110 men wounded.

Amongst the persons so wounded, a part did not even leave their ranks, and the others afterwards returned to their posts. In addition to the loss thus mentioned, we had on board of Russian 11 men killed and 1 officer, and 88 men wounded."

Private letters state that the Russian loss at Sweaborg was not less than 2,000 men. The Russians say that only 50 men were killed, and 1,300 guns remain in the same position as before the bombardment, and that the batteries were wholly uninjured.

INDIA.

Bombay dates to July 30 have been received. A formidable insurrection has occurred in Bengal among the Santals; and other tribes, numbering from 30,000 to 50,000, were destroying everything European.