battery in spite of a severe wound, while his life-blood was ebbing fast, rushed at a powder barrel and fired his pistol into it before he fell. Fortunately the powder did not explode as the fire did not go through the wood. Another charged with a cimeter in one hand and a formidable curved blade, which he used as a dagger, in the other, right into our ranks twice, and fell dead the second time, perforated with balls and bayonets. They were magnificently dressed, and it is supposed they were men of rank.

THE TWO HOURS' TRUCE.

A truce of two hours was agreed upon, to enable the Russians to recover and bury their dead. Shortly before twelve, I went down to our right attack in order to take advantage of the truce to see the enemy's position as closely as possible, arriving at Gordon's battery; however, I discovered that the firing was still going on, and that the truce would not commence for another half hour or so. When I entered the trench, all the troops were lying down under the shelter of the bank, gazing through two or three crevices at the movements of the enemy in the different batteries. In advance of the work, about 50 yards, were two or three small banks of sand-bags, under cover of which lay out our sentries exchanging shots now and then with their concealed adversaries in the pits. Beyond a few such compliments occasionally there was no appearance of hostilities; in fact, the whole aspect of affairs in the advanced work was that of serious idleness. The men in it were laughing and chatting in under-tones. Very many were wrapped up in their great coats, fast asleep. I walked down the work, looking at the marks which the place presented of the late desperate attack. In one or two places the gabions had been almost destroyed, and nearly all the sand-bags in the parapet knocked away. Those which had fallen inside had been replaced. Those outside were nearly as the enemy had left them. In one part of the trench were the bodies of a Russian officer and four men. The officer was the one who so distinguished himself by his determined efforts to force an entrance, and who at last, unfortunately for himself, succeeded. Outside the work the dead lay thicker, though with those in and out not more than 150 were there in all. On the right, the appearance of the French trench showed that the struggle had been long and bloody. This work had almost all been completety destroyed, and though every effort during the two nights which have since elapsed has been made to repair it, it is still in a rather dilapidated condition. Their gabions had been almost pulled away, and were lying in heaps in front of the work, and in a long train up to the Malakoff Tower, just as the Russians had thrown them away in their flight. The enemy's dead were here in serious numbers in front of the work. At least 200 were outside, and nearly as many more inside the trench. The French troops were now in strong force at this post, probably between five and six thousand, and many officers were there, both English and French, waiting till the flag of truce should be raised to cross the trench ahd survey the enemy's works. The time was to be between half-past twelve and two, yet it was now past one, and no sign of it appeared; on the contrary, the French and Russian riflemen, from their respective concealments, were firing away pretty sharply. A gun also was fired from the Malakoff Tower and went hissing through the air over Gordon's Battery, but an instant afterwards a white flag was hoisted on the Mamelon, which was replied to by one in the advanced trench. A few minutes afterwards and all the batteries had white flags flying, while a body of Russian soldiers, 1,500 or 2,000 strong, straggled out from the rear of the Malakoff Tower, and began descending the hill towards the middle ravine. Stretchers were then brought up, and the word given to our men to carry out the bodies of the dead Russians who lay inside the trench, and the rest of the men, who had been watching this signal, instantly swarmed over the breastwork, and began looking about them like boys out of school. I crossed with the rest and advanced beyond the middle ravine, almost to the foot of the small steep slope on which the Mamelon is erected. As this work is likely soon to figure rather importantly in our future proceedings, I surveyed it with much curiosity and interest. Viewed in connection with our chances of capturing Sebastopol, the impression which it produced on my mind was anything but favourable. It is a steep rocky eminence, about a mile in circumference at the base, and about a quarter of a mile at the top. Its average height from our advanced parallel is at least 100 feet, its distance from it about 200 yards, and its distance from the Malakoff Tower nearly double that. Seeing, therefore, that it is nearer to our works than the Russians, your readers will doubtless ask with surprise why the allies never occupied it themselves, especially as its summit entirely commands every part of the works round the Malakoff Tower. But this is a question which none can answer, and much more surprise is felt about our remissness in this particular here in camp, where the importance of the position is fully appreciated, than is ever likely to be excited at home. The work must be stormed, before any serious attempt to attack the town itself can be thought of. Whenever it is stormed, now that it is mounted with guns, the struggle will be most bloody. Its steep sides are so covered with masses of rock and loose stones, that no force of any strength could possibly advance undiscovered, while the same cross nature of the ground would equally hinder any sudden charge to capture it by a *coup de main*. About 40 guns in the Malakoff Tower works also appear laid so as to sweep every side of the hill, from its base to the summit. By the time that I had noted these particulars, all the French, English, and Russian officers and soldiers had met and were mingled together on the space outside the trenches. It certainly seemed an extraordinary scene. Everything was at once so warlike and yet so peaceful. Grim batteries were frowning down upon the spot from every side, yet the white flag was floating, and the parapets and embrasures were quite hidden with people eagerly looking down upon the spectacle below. When all the different troops had met—the privates grinning and offering each other pipes—the officers bowing to one another, as if all were on the most friendly terms, and as if in the course of a couple of hours, they would not be doing their very utmost to murder and destroy the very men on both sides to whom now both sides were so polite, across from our trenches, in the direction of the Malakoff Tower, a man with a white flag was leading a large fatigue party, carrying some of the enemy's dead. Russian fatigue parties were also busy round and inside the French trench, engaged in the same melancholy duty; while the idlers on both sides, of whom there were considerable numbers, strolled about, picking their way among masses of stone, pieces of shell, piles of round shot, dead Russians in every attitude of mortal agony, torn sand-bags, gabions, fascines, bayonets, broken firelocks, thousands of flattened bullets, unused cartridges, and all the litter of a scene of combat. The Russian officers were well and neatly dressed in long fine great-coats, white cross belts, and swords. Two or three had quite a profusion of handsome rings on their fingers. All seemed to speak French well; some were very friendly and chatty, offering our own and the French officers cigars, while others were polite, but very grave and reserved, bowing to the allied officers when they passed, but never entering into conversation or appearing to pay attention to any thing but the duties in which they were immediately engaged. One Russian officer, conversing with a party of ours, said that the large 68-pounder in the right of Gordon's battery had done the Mamelon works injury, but they hoped soon to repay it. Another asked with the utmost simplicity, "When the allies were going away?" The question was at first not understood, and he repeated it, asking when we intended to raise the siege and leave the Crimea? One of our officers replied, that we never intended quitting, until Sebastopol was levelled, upon which the Russian officers smiled, and the same who had before spoken said there was very little chance of our doing that. The Russian soldiers were both dirty and ragged, but beyond this defect in their appearance, were well enough. They were fine young men, and all in robust health, with round ruddy faces on which was a perperual grin at everything our men did or said. Their uniform was a short thick great-coat of grey frieze, with waist belts of the same material, round flat caps, and light leather boots, in fact, just the uniform of the men we fought at Inkermann. None had the helmet or other equipments of the Imperial Guard. The stretchers which they brought to carry away their dead had evidently been much used for such work, as the canvass was perfectly black with blood.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

Before Sebastopol, March 24.

My Lord,—On the morning of the 22d, the French troops in the advanced parallel moved forward, and drove the enemy out of the rifle pits in their immediate front, but nothing of any importance occurred during the day. Early in the night, however, a serious attack was made upon the works of our Allies in front of the Victoria redoubt, opposite the Malakoff tower. The night was very dark, and the wind so high, that the firing which took place, and which was very heavy, could scarcely be heard in the British camp; it is, therefore difficult to speak with certainty of what occurred from anything that could be heard or observed at the moment. It appears, however, that the Russians, after attacking the head of the sap which the French are carrying on towards the Mamelon, fell with two heavy masses on their new parallel, to the rear of which they succeeded in penetrating and momentarily possessing themselves of, after a gallant resistance on the part of our Allies. Having broken through, they passed along the parallel and in rear of it, until they came in contact with the troops stationed in our advanced parallel extending into the ravine, from the right of our advance, where it connects with the French trench. The enemy was here met by detachments of the 77th and 97th Regiments, forming part of the guard of the trenches, who, although thus taken suddenly both in flank and rear, behaved with the utmost gallantry and coolness. The detachment of the 97th, which was on the extreme right, and which, consequently, first came in contact with the enemy, repulsed the attack at the point of the bayonet. They were led by Captain Vicars, who, unfortunately, lost his life on the occasion; and I am assured that nothing could be more distinguished, than the gallantry and good example which he set to the detachment under his command. The conduct of the detachment of the 77th was equally distinguished; and the firmness and promptitude with which the attack in this part of the works was met were in the highest degree creditable to that regiment. These troops were under the direction of Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, who was wounded on the occasion so severely as for some time, I fear, to deprive the army of the benefit of his valuable services. The attention of the troops in our advanced works having been by these transactions drawn to the right, the enemy took occasion to move upon, and succeeded in penetrating into, the left front of our right attack, near the battery, where two 10-inch mortars have recently been placed. They advanced along the works, until they were met by a detachment of the 7th and 34th Regiments, which had been at work in the neighbourhood, under the direction of Lieut. Col. Tylden of the Royal Engineers, who promptly made them stand to their arms, and led them with the greatest determination and steadiness against the enemy, who were speedily ejected from the works and fairly pitched over the parapet, with but little or no firing on our part. Lieutenant Colonel Tylden speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of the troops on this occasion, and particularly of that of Lieutenant Marsh, Acting Adjutant of the 33d Regiment, whose services and activity throughout the night were very useful to him. Captain the Hon. Cavendish Browne, of the 7th, and Lieutenant Jordan of the 34th Regiment, were unfortunately killed in this attack, after displaying the most distinguished gallantry, and Lieut. McHenry of the former regiment was wounded, but I hope not very severely. Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, who commanded in the trenches, is, I regret to have to add, missing. The French, in retiring from their advanced parallel upon their supports, speedily rallied, and fell upon the enemy, whom they repulsed with great loss, and followed so far up towards the Mamelon, that they were enabled to level and destroy nearly all the "ambuscades" or "rifle concealments" erected along their front. I fear, however, that this success has not been accomplished without considerable loss on their part, although that of the enemy is much greater. Yesterday the whole of the ground between the posts of the two armies was covered with their dead, amounting to several hundreds, besides those which they had undoubtedly carried off before daylight. In the meanwhile, the enemy in great numbers found their way into the advanced batteries on our extreme left, whichare not yet armed, and momentarily got possession of them. The working parties were, however, speedily collected and reformed by Captain Chapman, of the 20th Regiment, Acting Engineer, and they at once drove the enemy out of the trenches with the utmost gallantry. Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, who was superintending the works, unfortunately fell into the hands of the enemy. I enclose the return of casualties to the 22d, inclusive. The wind is excessively high, but the weather is in other respects fine.—I have, &c.

RAGLAN.

DESPATCH FROM GENERAL CANROBERT.

The *Moniteur* of yesterday publishes the following despatch from General Canrobert, dated March 27th 1855, and addresed to the Minister of War:

"MONSIEUR LE MARECHAL,—As I apprised you in my letter of the 23d, suspension of hostilities for a few hours, requested by General Osten-Sacken, took place, for the interment of the men killed in the conflict of the night of the 22d. The Russians carried away under our eyes about 400 of their men who had fallen in front of our trenches. They had passed the preceding night in carrying away those of their soldiers who had been killed in the vicinity of their own lines.

"We have thus been enabled to estimate their loss with some exactitude. It must amount to 600 or 700 killed and 1,200 or 1,500 wounded, making at least 2,000 men killed or disabled. Our calculations, as has happened in all our former actions of war, must then have been greatly below the reality. Perhaps they are so still.

"Our own loss amounts to—killed or died of their wounds, 13 officers and 169 privates; wounded, 12 officers and 361 men; missing, 2 officers, and 54 men.

"We have news of two of the missing officers; they are in the hands of the enemy. One M. de Crecy, Captain Adjutant, Major of the 3d Zouavas, has had an arm amputated, and has received other wounds. He is, however, progressing satisfactorily. This officer highly distinguished himself in the glorious action of the 22d. The other, Captain Malafaye, of the 82d, has received several wounds, not of a dangerous character.

"I have nothing to add to the details which I have already given of this engagement, which really assumed large proportions. You will certainly appreciate all the merit of troops who can thus defend trenches still incomplete.

"I particularly draw your attention to two officers, already rich in services of war, and who have distinguished themselves anew in this brilliant engagement: General d' Autemarre and Colonel Janin of the 1st Zouavas. The latter wounded twice by stones, and once by a gun-shot, fought in person like a lion.

"The relieving army is still in the same position. Prince Gortschakoff has assumed the general command, which Baron Osten-Sacken had held *ad interim*. Tartar informations confirm the death of Prince Menschikoff, which took place, as he was about to leave the Crimea.

"I have to announce a deplorable disaster: the steamer Edinburgh, one of the largest English transports (for horses), chartered by your department, and which was going to Varna to embark the remaining horses of the 4th Hussars, mules, artillery horses, &c., went on shore to the north of Baltschik, and was lost, with two vessels which it was towing to the same place. No one was lost in this wreck, which took place on the 15th inst.

"The sanitary condition of the army is still satisfactory; the moral conditton was never firmer.—I am, &c.,

"CANROBERT,

"General Commanding-in-Chief the Army of of the East."

THE TURKISH EXPEDITION IN THE CRIMEA.

"The *Journal de Constantinople* of March 29 contains the following items of news respecting the Turkish force under Omar Pasha:—

"The Turkish army at Eupatoria now reckons about 40,000 men, with 150 guns. Their sanitary condition is excellent. Omar Pasha having learnt from prisoners that the Russian infantry employed in the last attack had retired upon Simpheropol, came to the conclusion that an opportune moment had arrived to extend his positions. After having provided Eupatoria with formidable fortifications, one of the advanced works of which swept, with its great guns, all the whole field of attack, he pushed his troops forward about 2,000 metres, occupied two villages, and ordered the vast camp to be entrenched. The advanced posts of the Rnssian cavalry have retired, without any serious resistance, beyond the reach of the guns of the advanced posts of the Turks. By this operation, Omar Pasha makes Eupatoria the centre of his position, and avoids by the extension which he has given to his new position all those encumbrances the consequences of which would be extremely dangerous. The Russians have now a larger circle to watch, which will require a larger number of troops and thus diminish the density of their lines. Henceforward, it will be comparatively easy to penetrate, at any desired point, the enlarged circle of the Russian advanced posts. The results of this operation on the part of Omar Pasha are excellent, and prove his great capacity for the direction of matters so important. Yesterday a regiment of the Tunisian divison arrived at Serasquierat, with their baggage, and embarked immediately on board the Tunisian steamer, Monsour in order to repair to Redschid Pasha, Batoum, who is the commander-in-chief of this division."

A PEEP INTO SEBASTOPOL.

From between the batteries, a most admirable view could be had right down into the town behind them. Even with the naked eye, everything could be seen quite distinctly; but, with a good glass, a minute examination of every house could be made. But the most minute examination which I could make failed to show me, that we had inflicted any injury worth speaking of in the town. The little huts of the Turkish and Tartar population outside the walls are destroyed. The handsome town inside the walls is, as a town, uninjured. A barrack and a few warehouses nearest to the walls are much perforated, and the roofs nearly gone, but this is all. The large public buildings, the barracks, churches, and rows of splendid houses, show no mark of injury of any kind. As I looked at some of the best streets I could hardly persuade myself, that I was not gazing at some of the better parts of Bath or Brighton, so white, regular, and handsome was their appearance. Very few persons were in the streets; probably I did not see more than thirty or forty in all, and of this small number, at least two-thirds were soldiers. I saw no women of any class A good many boats were busy about the harbour, and many people seemed at work on shore, a little above the water's edge on the north, where numbers of carts and arobas were passing to and fro, but beyond these signs of life, there seemed nothing doing. The town itself appeared almost entirely deserted.

ANOTHER SKIRMISH IN THE RIFLE PITS.

MARCH 25.—Last night the French again had a smart skirmish with the rifle pits under the Mamelon. It was attended with very little results. The French had to recover the three pits from which they had been compelled to withdraw their chasseurs the morning before. After skirmishing and firing for about an hour, our allies were unable to effect their purposes and discontinued their attack. The rest of the night passed off quietly on both sides.

FIGHTING AN ENEMY'S GUN.

A heavy gun on the left embrasure of the Mamelon was opened on No. 3 battery, in the right attack. The electric telegraph has now been completed between Lord Raglan's head-quarters and all the trenches, and by this a message was sent, informing his lordship of the opening of the gun, and asking advice. The reply was, "fight it." A long 68-pounder gun, from the Terrible, was found to bear upon the precise spot, and this, therefore, was the gun selected to fight the Russian one. The very first shot tore away one side of the Russian embrasure, and laid the enemy's gun completely open. The next struck the gun full in the muzzle, shattering and dismounting it within five minutes after the order had been given to fight the enemy's gun. Lord Raglan was informed by the telegraph, that it had been fought, and was then dismounted and broken. Orders were then sent back for the same 68-pounder to fire every half-hour in the same spot for the rest of the day. Before the day was half over, the greater part of the earthwork at each side of the embrasure was quite destroyed.

The next morning, No. 3 battery, on our right attack opened on the Mamelon, which had remounted their large gun and was firing heavily. About seven o'clock, one of our shells entered the work, and in a second after a terrific explosion took place, which