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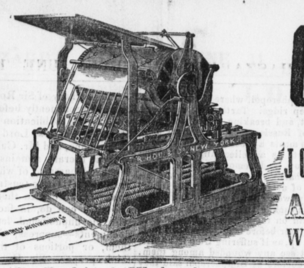

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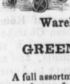

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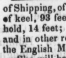

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THE BRITISH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(*From the Times.*)

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, May 8.—The French army continues to embark daily, and we, with more dignity and at greater leisure, follow their example. The French speak confidently of a great campaign in Africa, and even in another quarter of the globe, and they predict that peace will not last for two years. The Russians are equally hopeful, that they will have a chance of war in a short time, and they do not disguise their earnest burning lust to phlebotomize Austria, "*Austriche lache et ingrate.*" The Tartars bring in terrible stories of the revenge taken by the Russians on those unfortunate brethren of theirs who have given aid to the allies, or have been engaged in their service.

Colonel M'Murdo returned from Trebizond on Thursday night, and has had the rare good fortune to find near that city a good market for his best horses and mules. It appears that the main road to Persia passes from Trebizond through a small town, the name of which I do not know, where the great horse fair for Asia Minor to supply the merchants with pack and saddle animals is held, and we have just been lucky enough to meet the demand for transport, which has arisen, now that peace is proclaimed. Colonel M'Murdo has received very fair prices for all the animals he could sell, and in some instances, he got more than the original cost price. Our excursions into the Crimea are becoming rarer as curiosity becomes aatisfied, and leave more difficult to be obtained for lengthened absence. General Codrington has paid a visit to the Alma, and most of us who could go have performed a pilgrimage to the same place. The graves are scrupulously respected, and are marked with stones. The Russians are returning our visits now, and some unfortunate officers who, in the height of good fellowship and amid flowing bumpers, gave their name and an invitation to their boon companions to "come and stop a week with me, and bring your friends and family," have been horrified by the vision of a couple of droskies at their tent doors, containing a whole bevy of fair Muscovites, and their attendant lieges.

Lieutenant-General Lord Rokeby, commanding the First Division, and Lieut.-General Barnard, commanding the Second Division, are to be made Knights Commander of the Bath, and the latter will go to Corfu, as soon as his division shall have been broken up. It is believed, that Major-General Garrett will be made K. C. B., at the same time General Sir Colin Campbell will shortly return home, and the officers of the Highland Division, by whom he is greatly beloved, intend to give the gallant general a farewell banquet on Saturday next, for admission to which there is eager competition. Every one wishes the gallant General well, and the army feels that Sir Colin Campbell will not fail to justify the judgment which may select him for any post where the more valuable qualities of a soldier, such as decision, promptitude of execution, self-devotion, bravery, and personal activity, are required. He has gained the esteem of our allies; but it is felt, that in council he would have been the last man to yield to claims of the reasonableness of which he was not perfectly convinced, and that he is jealous of the honour and reputation of the British army.

There have been some discreditable transactions in camp lately, which have led to the retirement of two officers from the army, as notified by general orders. In one instance, an officer was detected in the act of reading a private letter addressed to a brother officer; in the other, a gentleman forgot how to write his name. General Codrington has a gentler touch in such matters than General Simpson. The latter had three officers cashiered by court-martial in as many weeks after he was appointed Commander-in-Chief; in the present cases the punishment is the same for each offence, and is therefore unequal, for the magnitude of these offences is not the same.

My diary extends from the 6th to the 10th of the month.

Tuesday.—The 63rd, which was seen off by General Garrett this morning, embarked in the Andes, but the sea was so high, and the swell so heavy, that it was not deemed expenient to send her to sea, and the vessel remained at anchor till the roll which set in on the coast had subsided. Brigadier Shewell goes back to the 8th Hussars.

After all that has been said to the country, it appears, that the Colonels who held the rank of Brigadiers will have to rejoin their regiments. The belief that this "degradation" would have been spared them for a little time was general a short time ago, but it is now ascertained to be groundless.

Wednesday.—The Board for the examination of the artillery horses and mules set to work with such zeal, that they cast 1500 animals in a very short time, and astonished the authorities out here by the discovery of so many useless animals. Their first decision has been revised, and they have reduced the number of cast animals to 700 or 800.

Thursday.—In a few days the sailing transport Star of the South, a fine ship of 1100 tons, laden with gunpowder, will leave for England. She has been lying in Balaklava harbour about 18 months, during which time she never moved an anchor, and she has cost the country, at a rough guess, about £22,000 for that time, for the freight on her cargo and her hire at so much per month. She has served as a kind of floating hotel for some of the harbour naval officers and agents, for travelling gentlemen, and merchants. She has been at least once on fire—that is, she has been in the way of finishing Balaklava, and perhaps the war, as far as we are concerned, with one great *coup de poudre*, but it will no doubt be maintained, that the whole engagement of the ship was a rare stroke of economy, and that no hulks and no vessels at Constantinople could have been got for anything like the money.

Friday.—In general orders last night, there was a paragraph referring to the French war medals, which shows that the vicious distinction, as it is considered by the military authorities of every country but our own, between the officer and the private in the distribution of honorary rewards and decorations, is to be maintained and insisted upon. No officer is to receive a war medal—it will only be given to non-commissioned officers and privates, and if it is seen on the breast of an officer hereafter, it will be a badge of his service in the ranks, and will prove to all the world that he has been a private soldier. Now, what the soldier would like to see given to him would be a decoration worn by his officers, and open to the ranks. If an Englishman wishes to be cured of a little national vanity, he will talk to his late adversaries. They respect the courage of our soldiers, our endurance, and our fighting qualities, but they speak with scarcely concealed contempt of our military organization and of the characteristics of our generals; and they are always taking as their standard in military matters the French;" "We have now as many riflemen as the French," and so on. They must know that all our army is armed with the Minie, whereas the French have got very few in comparison. We may fairly say that our riflemen are equal to any tirailleurs in the world, and that in our regiments there are many crack shots; but, nevertheless, whether it be to spite us or not, the Russians affect to consider us as very inferior antagonists to our allies, and while they freely abuse their own generals, they do not spare ours.

The banquet given to Sir Colin Campbell today was, I hear, of the most luxurious character, and the proceedings were characterized by great warmth and feeling. The gallant had a parade of all the regiments of the magnificent division it has been his pride to command, and when the men had formed, he proceeded to address them. But soon his emotions choked his voice—tears started to his eyes, and Sir Colin could say no more. All who were present were very deeply moved by the eloquence and natural propriety of the few words their valued leader was able to address to them. The banquet took place at Kamara, and the aid of Soyer was given to render the feast, for which Mr. Crockford exhausted the resources of the Crimea, worthy of the occasion.

The result of the trials between French and English guns to-day may be said to be a total failure on our side, but middling success on the part of our allies:—

Yards.	French.	English.
1000	2	0
1200	0	0
1500	6	0

I shall send you more accurate details next post, and I should regret, if there was reason to believe, that these trials must be regarded as conclusive.

The first experiment was made with a French 12-pounder, bored out from being an 8-pounder, against a light English 6-pounder, at distances of 700, 1000, 1200, and 1500 yards, with six rounds a-gun.

The second was with a French Napoleon 12-pounder (licorne) against a 6-pounder. The *superiority of the French* in both instances is admitted by artillery officers to have been *unmistakable.*

NUMBER OF HITS IN THE TARGET.

Yards.	French	English.
700	5	3
1,000	2	1
1,200	0	0
1,500	1	1
SECOND TRIAL.		
700	5	2

FRANCE.

The Austrian Ambassador at Paris presented his letter of credence yesterday to the Emperor. In addressing his Majesty, he spoke of the intimate alliance so happily existing between the two imperial courts, and characterized it as a pledge of order and security for all, and which had powerfully contributed to restore the peace. The Emperor replied by a few words full of kindness. The entry of General Failles' division into Lyons on the 22nd was a regular triumph. We are in vain looking for the nomination of an Ambassador from the court of St. Petersburg, Baron Brunow being only here on an extraordinary mission. This would show, that the reconciliation with Russia is far from being so sincere as might be wished. Considering the effect produced by the treaty of the 5th of April, some people begin seriously to think that no Ambassador will be at all named, but the diplomatic relations will continue in the same provisional state in which they now are. Count Orloff expresses his ill-humour as much as he can, short of giving direct offence. He declined accepting an invitation to an official dinner the other day, where, however, Baron Brunow was a guest. The excuse was "a sore eye;" but, as M. Hubner was expected to be there, it is not too much to suppose, that the presence of the Austrian was the real eye sore of Count Orloff.

The Austrian Archduke Maximilian held a reception at Paris on Wednesday, and it is stated, that not a single Russian presented himself.

Thierry, the historian of "The Norman Conquest," died in Paris yesterday.

The aristocracy of Vienna, especially the ladies, are very indignant, that Baron Hubner—"a glazier's son!" should be appointed Ambassador at Paris. When he returns from his mission, the irate dames declare that he shall not be admitted to their drawing-rooms.

The Spanish journals record another forcible abduction of a wealthy citizen, M. Martinez, a merchant of Malaga, who was carried off on the 6th, as he was returning from his country seat, and who has since been detained by his captors, it is not known where. A demand of 30,000 reals for his ransom has been made on his family.

A proposition, originating with M. Charles Dupin, is before the French Senate, providing for the erection in Paris of an immense column, surmounted by a statue of the Emperor, as a memorial to the army of the East.

The Weser Gazette, under date of Vienna, the 10th instant, states, that the health of the Pope is such, as to cause serious uneasiness, symptoms of dropsy becoming every day more and more evident.