

## News Department.

From papers by R. M. B. America, September 15

## RUSSIA.

As we are, without official details of the great events leading to the destruction of Sebastopol, we simply give the telegraph despatches in the order they arrived. First, those of General Simpson to Lord Panmure—

"Crimea, Sept. 5, 1855.—Our batteries opened fire at daylight this morning.

"Sept. 6, 6 p. m.—The bombardment goes on steadily and favourably, with few casualties on our side. A Russian frigate, supposed to have been set on fire by our rockets, was burnt last night in the Great Harbour.

"Crimea, Sept. 8, 11.35 p. m.—The allied forces attacked the defences of Sebastopol this day at twelve o'clock. The assault on the Malakhoff has been successful, and the work is in possession of the French. The attack of the English against the Redan did not succeed.

"Crimea, Sept. 8, 1855.—Another Russian frigate was destroyed by fire in the Great Harbour. A large fire is burning about the middle of the town this morning. Last night, about five minutes past one o'clock, a great explosion took place, supposed to have been one of the enemy's magazines on the north side.

"Crimea, Sept. 9.—Sebastopol is in the possession of the allies. The enemy, during the night and this morning, have evacuated the south side, and exploding their magazines and setting fire to the whole of the town. All the men of war were burned during the night, with the exception of three steamers which are lying about the harbour. The bridge communicating with the north side is broken.

"Crimea, Sept. 10.—The casualties, I regret to say, are somewhat heavy. No General officer killed. Names shall be sent as soon as possible."

From Sir E. Lyons:—

"Sept. 9.—During the night the Russians have sunk all the remainder of the line-of-battle ships in Sebastopol harbour."

The following are the despatches of General Pellissier to the French Minister-of-War:—

"The Crimea, Sept. 6.—A shell thrown from the right has struck and burnt the Russian two-decker *Marian*, in Sebastopol Bay. The flames illuminated the whole of our camps.

"Crimea, Sept. 6, 10 a. m.—Our fire against the place goes on favourably. Our loss is trifling. Nothing new on the lines of the Tchernaya. The enemy does not intend another movement.

"Crimea, Sept. 7, 10 a. m.—The fire of our artillery has been continuous for the last four-and-twenty hours. A French shell has set on fire to-day a Russian frigate, which is burning at this moment.

"Varna, September 9, 3.35 a. m.—The assault on the Malakhoff was made yesterday at noon. Its redoubts, and the Redan of Careening Bay, were carried by storm by our brave soldiers with admirable intrepidity, to the shouts of *Vive l'Empereur*." We immediately occupied ourselves in lodging ourselves there. We succeeded in doing so at Malakhoff.

"The Redan of Careening Bay was not tenable, owing to the heavy fire of artillery which was poured upon the first occupiers of that work. Our solid intimation at Malakhoff cannot fail soon to make it surrender, as also the Redan, of which our brave allies carried the salient with their usual vigour. But, as was the case at the Redan of Careening Bay, they were obliged to give way before the enemy's artillery and powerful reserves.

"On beholding our eagles floating on the Malakhoff, General de Salles, made two attacks on the Central Bastion. They did not succeed. Our troops returned to their trenches. Our losses are serious, and I can not yet send a precise return. They are amply compensated for, as the capture of the Malakhoff is a success the consequences of which are immense.

"Redoubt Brancion, Sept. 9, 3 a. m.—Karabelnaya and the south side of Sebastopol no longer exist. The enemy perceived how firmly we were established in the Malakhoff, and tried to evacuate the place, after having blown up the mines and laid in ruins nearly all the defences. Passing the night here in the midst of my troops, I am able to assure you from personal observation that the Karabelnaya suburb has been completely blown up, and the same thing must have happened before our last attack. This immense success does the greatest honour to our troops. To-morrow I shall be able to ascertain more precisely the results of this great day, in which General Bosquet and Malabon have shared the chief honours. On the Tchernaya all is peaceable: we are guarding that line.

"Crimea, Sept. 9, 8 p. m.—To-day I have ascertained that the enemy has sunk his steam-vessels. The work of destruction continues under the fires of our mortars. As mines are successively sprung at different points, it is my duty to defer entering the place, which has the appearance of a great furnace.

"Prince Gortschakoff, being closely pressed by our fire, has demanded an armistice to carry off his wounded. The bridge near Fort St. Paul has been destroyed by the enemy.

"I am engaged in ascertaining the amount of our loss, and I shall forward the results as soon as I know it exactly. Everything is going on well. We are watching the movements of the enemy on the Tchernaya.

"Crimea, Sept. 10, 10 a. m.—The allies are masters of the whole of the south side of Sebastopol."

Admiral Bruat sends the following despatch to the French Minister of Marine:—

"Crimea Sept. 9, 10. 15 a. m.—The assault upon the Malakhoff Tower was made yesterday at noon, and later on the Great Redan and on the Central Bastion. A gale from the north kept the ships at anchor.

"The mortar-boats, to be enabled to fire, were obliged to enter Strelitzka Bay. They fired 600 shells against the Quarantine Bastion and Fort Alexander. The six English mortar-boats, also at anchor in Strelitzka Bay fired about the same number of shells.

"Last night violent explosions and vast conflagrations made us suppose that the Russians were evacuating the town.

"To-day we ascertained that the Russian vessels had been sunk. The bridge was covered with troops retreating to the north side. After eight o'clock the bridge was destroyed.

"Only a few steamers remain in the port, anchored near Fort Catherine.

"I approached this morning the Quarantine batteries on board the *Brandon*, and ascertained myself that they are now evacuated. They have just blown up. "Our soldiers have left their trenches and spread themselves in isolated groups on the ramparts of the town, which appears to be completely abandoned."

The following is the Sardinian account sent by General La Marmora to Turin:—

"Kadikoi, Sept. 9.—The general assault was made on Sebastopol yesterday. It was crowned by a brilliant success. The Malakhoff Tower was taken by the corps d'armee of General Boquet. Our soldiers, though they did not take part in the assault, had forty men killed and wounded in the trenches. The French and English assaulted with true heroism. During the night the Russians retired, after having burnt the town and blown up the fortification and buildings, and having sunk their last ships."

The following are the brief Russian despatches of Prince Gortschakoff to St. Petersburg:—

"Sept. 7, 11 o'clock at night.—The bombardment has been resumed with fury, it continues day and night. At this moment it is exceedingly heavy. We continue to repair damages successfully. This (Friday) morning, about daybreak, the cannonade was vigorous, but it slackened towards noon."

"Sebastopol, Sept. 9, 8 p. m.—The enemy receives constantly reinforcements of fresh troops. The bombardment is fiercely violent.

"10 at Night.—The garrison of Sebastopol, after sustaining an infernal fire (*Jeu d'enfer*), repulsed six assaults, but could not drive the enemy from the Koroni (the Malakhoff Tower). Our brave troops, who resisted to the last extremity, are now crossing over to the northern part of Sebastopol. The enemy found nothing in the southern part but blood-stained ruins."

"On the 9th of September the passage of the garrison from the southern to the northern part was accomplished with extraordinary success, our loss on that occasion being but one hundred men. We left, I regret to say, nearly five hundred men grievously wounded on the southern side."

The *Times* this morning appears to think that Prince Gortschakoff will hold the Sivernia temporarily, and urges the allies to immediate action:—"The Russians are in a trap, from which the Tchongar road and the Isthmus of Perekop are the only means of escape, and these their communications may possibly be intercepted. . . . The immediate consequences of their own success in the siege operations must have been considered by the allied Generals, and the moment is now arrived when they may proceed to open the campaign of which the reduction of Sebastopol was the first preliminary. That field operations of this nature had long been contemplated, by the allied Governments, is obvious from the large cavalry forces they have continued to send to the Crimea. The British army alone can bring upwards of 3,000 sabres and lances into the field, and the French cavalry is still more numerous and impatient of the inaction to which it has hitherto been condemned. Hitherto the conquest in the Crimea has been confined to one single object, and, with the exception of the action of the 20th of September on the Alma, and the flank march to Balaclava, it has been a war without a single tactical movement. General Pellissier has shown, in our humble opinion, very admirable military qualities since he assumed the command, and he has been ably supported by General Simpson; but the present state of our affairs deserves to call forth abilities of a still higher and more brilliant order. The Russian army in the Crimea is probably not superior, to the forces of the allies in numbers, and it is immeasurably inferior to them in resources and supplies, as well as in those moral qualities which at once constitute and enhance the prestige of victory. On every occasion on which they have encountered an enemy, in this war—whether Turks, French, English, or Sardinians—the fortune of war has deserted the Russian eagles. For them to advance is impossible, for the whole coast is guarded by the enemy; and no Russian vessel floats on those waters. We trust that no considerations whatever will prevent the allied Generals from giving the most vigorous and immediate effect to the great advantage which they have won. Beyond the time absolutely required for the removal of the wounded, no armistice should be conceded. To give the campaign its full effect its success must now be rendered absolute and complete. The Russians are a people who will deny to the last that any advantage has been gained over them, and Prince Gortschakoff boasts in his account even of this sanguinary defeat that he was extremely successful in carrying off

his army. Fighting, as they are, in closed lists, without the means of escape, the defeated Russian army should be compelled to lay down its arms, or to fight a general action, which would crown the series of our successes by a still more decisive victory. The peninsula itself is besieged and well-nigh invested by our fleets and armies, and if the command of a single road be lost, the whole line of retreat, and the only line by which supplies and communications can reach the Russians, is gone. Such we take to be the relative position of the belligerents in the Crimea, and with the means of action at the disposal of the French and English Generals, we have confident hopes of a glorious result."

The *Morning Chronicle* publishes the following, but without giving any authority for the same:—"The celebrated despatch from Prince Gortschakoff, announcing that 'Our works are suffering, caused a great impression at St. Petersburg, and the Emperor immediately summoned a kind of Council of War, composed of the most experienced officers, and demanded their advice on the best means of re-establishing the morale of his troops, and lessening the bad effect of the defeat on the Tchernaya. He also ordered an inquiry into the conduct of General Igad, who had been accused by Prince Gortschakoff of not following the instructions of his General-in-chief. Turning then on Prince Menschikoff, who, with General Dannonberg, had received a summons to the council, the Emperor asked why, when he was commanding at Sebastopol, he had not followed up the system of constant attacks on the enemy at a time when the allies were discouraged by months of useless toil and by disease, and before they had received the reinforcements that have since been so constantly pouring in. The Prince replied that he was obliged to give up the system because the army was then actually in want of ammunition. At this answer the Emperor turned sharply round on Prince Dolgorouky, the Minister of War, and reproached him bitterly with his inconceivable negligence in leaving the Russian army in want of so necessary an article. The Prince replied roughly that the assertion of the ex-Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea was false, and that the Russian army never was deficient anywhere in rations and ammunition, and certainly not in the Crimea. Prince Menschikoff, whose haughtiness and temper are notorious, retorted that the Minister of War knew nothing about what he was saying, and that he did not consider him competent to offer any opinion on the matter, as he had neither invented, nor handled, nor burnt powder. It is hard to tell to what lengths the altercation might have been carried, according to the account we have received, had not the Emperor terminated the sitting by ordering Count Alexis Orloff to investigate the truth of these conflicting assertions."

## SPAIN.

There is a rumour of Queen Isabella abdicating in favour of her sister, the Duchess de Montpensier, but it is not believed in.

The public journals are bent just now on showing the pecuniary benefit the Spanish people are to derive from a separation from the Holy See. The following professes to be extracted from official sources:—

"From 1814 to the end of 1819 the Court of Rome has received from Spain for marriage dispensations, secularizations, authority to erect chapels and oratories, minor favours and indulgences, &c., the sum of 24,945,880 rials! For other objects, too long to enumerate, 16,677,346 rials. Since the coming to the throne of his well-beloved daughter, Isabella II., the Pope has sucked out of Spain the modest sum of 140,000,000 rials (about £3,545,850 sterling.) 'Hero' continues the journal 'we have the tariff of prices published two years ago by an agency of the Catholic Apostolate of Rome, from which we will cite a few articles:—For the concession to a privileged altar of the power of granting penitential indulgences to certain souls in purgatory, 120 rials; purchase of power for the blessing of crosses, rosaries, and medals, 50 rials; for the right of choosing confessors endowed with the power from the holy seat of granting absolutions from censures, irregularities, and cases reserved for the jurisdiction of the Pope, 100 rials; dispensation of vows of chastity, 220 rials; permission to read and possess prohibited works, 86 rials; right of bestowing the Papal benediction on dying persons, 160 rials."

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The *Cape Monitor* gives a report of a meeting got up at Cape Town by the abettors of the Rev. R. G. Lamb in his difference with his Bishop, arising out of the charges made against the Bishop by Mr. Lamb, when attending a meeting in England, at Liverpool. The supporters of Mr. Lamb assembled, amidst great clamour and struggles for admittance by the Bishop's supporters, and after merely passing a formal resolution, their chairman declared the meeting adjourned: the supporters of the Bishop, however, who had now gained admittance in considerable numbers, refused to adjourn, declaring that the meeting intended was an assembly of "only fifteen of the congregation of Trinity Church, met with closed doors, with the intention of passing resolutions, to send to the English newspapers, as the opinions of Churchmen in the colony, and thereby to back up the statements made against the Bishop. (Cheers.)"

"Mr. Irons (a member of the Trinity congregation)—Gentlemen, I beg to move that we all disperse, go home, and read the 13th chapter of Corinthians. (Laughter.)"

"Mr. Hewitt—Had I been allowed in, I intended to have moved, "That the cordial thanks of this