

allied armies the Russian generals succeeded in entering the Crimea on several different points and confounded the enemy by the rapidity of their unforeseen attacks. We now revert, however, to the recent operations, which have been imperfectly described in the published despatches of the British Government. It is stated in the Russian accounts that on the 27th June nine steamers of war appeared before Genitchi, and opened fire partly on the town and partly on the roads along the coast, where a convoy of salt was stopped and destroyed. The fire was continued for some days, but it is stated, oddly enough that on the 29th of June vessels detached from the squadron set fire to all the farms within 30 versts. We are at a loss to conceive how these vessels could interfere with the agricultural pursuits of the inhabitants except in the immediate vicinity of the shore and the report appears to be a loose and unmeaning one. On the 3rd of July it is correctly stated that two boats came within about sixty yards of the shore; but the Russian commander has omitted to add that they succeeded in performing the daring exploit of cutting the floating bridge adrift under fire, and that instead of losing "three rowers and the man at the helm," this feat fortunately cost our brave fellows only two slight contusions. The immediate effect of these operations seems to have been to draw the attention of the Russians to this point on the coast, and we are informed that, "from arrangements made by Prince Gortschakoff, the detachments of Genitchi was reinforced by fresh troops, and the number of Cossacks of the sea of Azoff placed with their boats at the disposal of Prince Labanoff was increased." We remark this passage, because it is the first time, as far as we know, that any allusion has been made in the Russian despatches to these Cossacks of the Sea of Azoff. These Cossacks are a branch of one of the clans of Zaporogue Cossacks, who maintained their independence against the Czars of Russia until the last century, and were eventually destroyed by Catherine the II., who transported a portion of them to the frontiers of Circassia and the sea of Azoff. They are organised under the Hetman, not as irregular cavalry, but as a portion of the naval forces of Southern Russia. They pass for the best mariners of those seas, and they furnish about 30 well-armed gun boats to the Imperial fleet, which were employed in maintaining the blockade of the Circassian coast. When the allied squadrons forced the straits of Yenicele and swept across the Sea of Azoff we heard nothing of the maritime Cossacks to whom the navigation and defence of those waters is specially entrusted. It seems, however, that this flotilla was in some place where it escaped the observation of our cruisers, and where its service still remain at the disposal of Prince Labanoff at Genitchi. We therefore are left to conclude, that if these facts are at all correct, these gunboats of the Cossacks of the Sea of Azoff must have retreated to the Sirvash or Putrid Sea, where it was known that a considerable quantity of shipping took refuge when pursued by Captain Lyons. If this be the fact, it serves to show that there must at least be water within the Strait of Genitchi to float some of our launches and gunboats, and the preparations for the defence of Tchongar-bridge prove that the enemy anticipated an attack in that quarter. This hostile demonstration was however, not preserved in all the time it was made, which is now full four weeks ago, and more recent accounts from the fleet lead us to believe that the Admirals had recollected the whole body of vessels of light draught in Kamiesch Bay, where it was thought that a *coup de main* would speedily be attempted in another direction. Whatever may be the causes that retard the progress of the siege of Sebastopol by land, and cause the allied Commanders to postpone those field operations which are considered by all those military authorities who have investigated the subject, both abroad and at home, to be indispensable preliminaries to the reduction of the place, none of these reasons can affect the movements of the navy. It is obvious that the Admirals possess all the advantages which the undisputed possession of Sebastopol itself has heretofore secured to the naval power of Russia. They have a fleet, an army, and an arsenal at their disposal in so central a position that they can strike the enemy within a few hours on any point of the vast semicircle which extends from the mouth of the Danube to the mouth of the Don, and the terror inspired by these sudden incursions would be greatly increased by the rapidity with which they might be made to succeed each other in different places. Indeed, large armies would be required to garrison and defend so vast an extent of coast. The experiment tried in the Sea of Azoff was completely successful, but it has scarcely been followed up, and, with forces capable of achieving any exploits at sea, it is incredible how little has as yet been undertaken. We sincerely hope that the time of these intermittent operations is nearly at an end. One scheme of a novel and peculiar character is mentioned in some of the last letters from the camp, which partakes of the character of a naval operation. The French have now carried forward the White Works on the extreme right until they reach the shore of the inner harbor of Sebastopol at Careening Bay. It has been suggested that, under cover of the French batteries, it may be practicable to construct and launch rafts carrying heavy guns, after the fashion of the *Lady Nancy*, which did good service in the bombardment of Taganrog, and that a small flotilla of this description may act with effect against the Russian steamers and some part of the defences. The expedient reminds one of the celebrated, but almost incredible operation of Mahomet II., when he brought his fire-ships and galleys, at the siege of Constantinople, into the rear of the Golden Horn; but, in the present instance, since the Allies are in possession of part of the coast of the harbor, and will probably, ere long, completely occupy the Careening Bay, it is by no means impossible that some portion

of our naval resources may be employed about the town.

FORTIFICATION OF KAMIESCH.

The *Constitutionnel*, in an article descriptive of Kamiesch and the wondrous transformation wrought in the place since it has been occupied by the French, enlarges thus upon the vast importance of the fortifications now in the course of completion there:—"Without entering upon military considerations or details of operations which would be here out of place, we may observe on the important part which Kamiesch may be called upon to play in the Crimean war, as a possibility which must strike every mind. Now that it is assured of such a formidable basis of operations, the army has perfect freedom of movement which it had not at the beginning of the campaign. In every possible contingency the possession of Kamiesch, fortified as it now is, will aid in the accomplishment of the object with which the war in the Crimea was undertaken. Sebastopol commanded by Kamiesch, which holds it, so to speak, by the throat, can never henceforth be of any use to the Czar. On the supposition that events should call the army to fresh points of the Russian territory, who does not see that the presence of a few French and English ships at Kamiesch would suffice to nullify the entire offensive power of Sebastopol? Therefore, the possibility of the mobilisation of the allied army and of the nullification of Sebastopol are the two grand results of the transformation of Kamiesch into a place of war. It is now the sentinel—the keeper of the Russian citadel. France now knows that without abandoning its conquest it may at will send an army of 100,000 men to any point where the glorious cause for which it is fighting by the side of England may call for their services." This looks as if it were desired to prepare the public mind for the possibility of such an event as the raising of the siege of Sebastopol. Should this be done, we must not be disheartened, and must not attach undue importance to phrases. "Raising the siege" is not the same thing as renouncing the siege. If it should turn out that the next attack (generally thought to be imminent) should be a failure, or only partially successful; or if, on further consideration, it should be thought that another attack, under present circumstances, would only involve a great loss of life for no adequate advantage, the change of tactics hinted at by the *Constitutionnel* might well be merely such a backward step as is described in the French proverb *reculer pour mieux sauter*. To surround Sebastopol and cut off supplies to the garrison by land, while the place is blockaded by sea, might well be a more effectual plan for reducing the place than sending masses of men to be mown down by cannon from earthwork batteries. It is consolatory to be told that by reason of Kamiesch being converted into a stronghold, the allied armies can now take the field if necessary. But decision and activity are above all things necessary, seeing how short is the campaigning season between this and the approaching winter. —*Daily News*.

A French letter from Kamiesch Bay, dated 14th July, says:—"We are in the profoundest calm, but there pervades the whole fleet, as well as the camp, a strong sensation, which is the forerunner of great events? What is about to happen? What is the object of these vast armaments, of these formidable reinforcements which continually arrive? No one knows, for the Admirals and Generals maintain the most impenetrable secrecy on the plan of their future operations. Kamiesch continues to be fortified, and will soon be capable of presenting a serious resistance in case of attack. We have been disconcerted of all who had no serious means of existence, for it was justly considered that at a given moment they would become spies of a very dangerous kind. I cannot give you any particulars about the works of the English attack. I only know that they are pushed on with vigor. Our allies have received considerable reinforcements, particularly of cavalry. They have now a brigade of heavy, and two of light cavalry—in all about 8,000 horses. The heavy cavalry, which is composed of six regiments of Dragoons, commanded by General Lawrence, is perfectly organised. It consists of picked men, of robust stature, and of a martial appearance, which presages nothing good to the enemy, you may rely upon it. The light cavalry, composed of eight regiments of Hussars and two of Lancers, under the orders of Lord George Paget and Col. Parby, is perfectly equipped and mounted, and the general opinion is that these gallant fellows will render most important service. I am at this moment informed that they have an order to join the division of General d'Altonville, in the plains of Baidar. I do not, however, guarantee the fact. The health of the army improves daily. The cholera has almost entirely disappeared. The Piedmontese army, which had cruelly suffered from it, has at last got rid of this terrible enemy.

A Constantinople correspondence of the 16th, says that General Pelissier has turned all the newspaper correspondents out of Kamiesch, and sent them to Constantinople. The reason is that some of them had made public information, regarding the works in Kamiesch, which ought to have been kept secret.

(From the *Cor.* of the *Daily News*.)

General Simpson's very sensible refusal to accept the command-in-chief, and the continued delay in Lord Panmure's finding some one else, still keep us in the same state of wearying and discouraging inactivity that existed when I last wrote. To be sure, the routine business of the siege goes on; much ammunition and some lives are daily and nightly expended, and our advanced works are still prosecuted in a way; but it would need sharper vision than I can pretend to, to trace the progress of one week over that which went before, or to see how the grand end we aim at is being at all brought nearer. Be he who he may—Lord Gough or Sir Harry Smith—

the new commander-in-chief will find a task before him with which no ordinary energy will suffice to grapple—noting less than the labor of infusing new life and activity into every arm and department of his force; of weeding out incapacity, and substituting well-qualified ability in its stead; and of redeeming by prompt and well-directed vigor the wasted months frittered away by the feeble indecision of his predecessor. His advanced age and personal infirmities unfit General Simpson for the task; and though it is difficult to say who of our senior generals is much better off in these respects, he has acted wisely, as well for his own reputation's sake as for that of the public service, in declining a post for which he knew himself to be unfit. It would be well, if the same honest principle had weight with many of his inferiors.

You will have heard from your correspondent with Omar Pasha's force of the continued inactivity in the neighborhood of the Tchernaya—after all the trumpeting and lofty parades of what was to have been done there by Turks, Sardinians, and French. Instead of pursuing their course round towards Mackenzie's Farm by Mangup Kalé, the whole allied force appears to have quartered itself permanently—for the present, at all events—along the grassy and wooded slopes round Baidar and overlooking the sea, pleasantly employing its men in the erection of leafy wicker huts, and other contrivances conducing to individual comfort, and leaving the Cossacks to career undisturbed along the slopes and summits of the opposite plateaux. Whilst campaigning, however, is thus at a stand-still, the situation of this advanced force affords an opportunity for exploration interiorwards, which was agreeably taken advantage of a few days ago by a party of English and French officers. Bent on a day's adventurous enjoyment, some eight or nine of these gentlemen, properly mounted and armed, started, in the middle of last week, for an excursion beyond the most advanced of the Turkish advanced pickets. After riding on through six miles of wooded ravines without meeting with any of the "everlasting" Cossacks, they suddenly came upon a large and handsome villa, before which they pulled up and commenced a council of war as to the advisability of entering. Their deliberations, however, were cut short by the owner—a Russian nobleman—coming out himself, and, with the best grace in the world, inviting "the strangers" in—assuring them, at the same time, that there were no Cossacks within two or three miles of the house, and that they might therefore make themselves perfectly easy. In, accordingly, the party went, were entertained with an excellent luncheon—with champagne *ad lib.*—and after spending a couple of hours in as pleasant a manner as campaigners could desire, took leave of the hospitable Muscovite, and returned to the Turkish outposts altogether unmolested. The report of this pleasant episode has, I am told, sent more than one company of luncheon-lovers to the Russian villa since; but whether or not their experience has, in every case, been similar to that of the first, I have not learned—though probably the same sensible policy which drew out the champagne corks before may have done so as freely since.

I yesterday made a circuit through the trenches on our own left and right attacks, in hopes of discovering some marked signs of progress since the fatal 18th; but the toil and peril of the journey were but badly recompensed—little or nothing meeting my eye beyond what I have reported many days ago. To be sure, the advanced trenches are carried somewhat nearer to the enemy; and besides the spoiled six-gun battery—now turned into a mortar battery—a small one, for two Lancasters sixty-eights, is in course of erection, in advance of the old eight-gun work.—The last product of our engineers' inventive faculties is designed to play on the shipping in the north side of the harbor, whence if they shift over to this opposite bank, the French will be able to play upon them with effect. Thus, little by little, we are creeping on to a state of attack which should have been advanced to the present point early in spring, learning engineering as we proceed, and discovering our defects and errors only by some dear-bought piece of experience in almost every case. In the large 21-gun battery the eye fell upon practical evidence of the work which that well-fought battery has gone through, in the shape of several burst guns, and still more disabled ones, strewed around half-buried or altogether uncovered in the rear of the work. Most of the guns in position have just been "bushed" anew, the excessive amount of fire which they have gone through having nearly altogether worn away the whole vents. In connexion with this piece of repairs, I may mention a piece of official culpability which is spoken of throughout the camp in terms much more forcible than complimentary. Inside, the past ten days, two—if not three—of the sixty-eights with which this battery is armed have burst through fair dint of overwork, and the knowledge that several of the remaining pieces have likewise been worn into a dangerous state induced the authorities at headquarters to have the whole examined by a board of officers early last week. The result of the examination was a report condemning the whole of the remaining guns in the battery as unserviceable and dangerous, many of them having been fired as often as three thousand times, or six times as often as such pieces are usually calculated to bear.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE NEW BISHOP OF WATERFORD AND LISMORE.—A letter has been received in town from Rome, to the effect, as we are credibly informed, that the Very Rev. Doctor O'Brien, P.P. of St. Patrick's, in this city, will, without doubt, be the new Bishop of the united dioceses of Waterford and Lismore. This announcement will, we are sure, be received with the utmost satisfaction by the Clergy and people of these extensive dioceses. —*Waterford News*.

His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Dixon, of Armagh, and the Catholic Bishops of the province of Ulster, are to meet the parish priests of the diocese of Raphoe on the 8th of August, in Donegal, for the purpose of nominating to the Court of Rome an ecclesiastic qualified to be coadjutor to Bishop McGettigan.

The Very Rev. B. Roche has been nominated by the assembled priesthood of the diocese of Galway to succeed the late venerated Bishop of that diocese, Rt. Rev. Dr. O'Donnell. Very Rev. Peter Daly and Rev. James Geraghty, P.P., were nominated for the distinction.

Sir Timothy O'Brien has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the city of Dublin.

It is understood that Sir William B. Hackett will be next High Sheriff for the city of Cork.

Three or four members of the Emmet family, relatives of Robert Emmet and Thomas Addis Emmet, the Celebrated Irish-American advocate, have arrived at the Lakes of Killarney, and are now staying at the Lake Hotel, says an Irish Journal.

The estate of Turin, near Hollymount, in Mayo, has been purchased for a Scotch gentleman, Mr. E. Ruthenford, of Roxburghshire, by Mr. T. Miller, of Edinburgh, for £16,500.

PRISONS IN IRELAND.—The thirty third report of the Inspectors-General of the State of the Prisons in Ireland, in 1854, was issued on Saturday. The inspectors measure the rise and fall of prison population from the year 1846, in which the famine and its consequences first began to affect injuriously the social system of Ireland up to 1850, the point of culmination, since which period a nominal decline has been observable down to the present date. On the 1st January, 1851, the number of prisoners in gaols was 10,967, but on the 1st of January, 1851, the number had sunk to 5,050. In the year 1850 the total confined in gaols was 115,871, giving a daily average of 11,496. In 1854 it was only 73,733, showing a daily average of 5,704; but the aggregate of prisoners confined in the past year still exhibits a very large excess over a similar total in 1846, 73,733 to 47,311, the latter sum representing a census which embraced nearly two millions more than that taken in 1851. There is, however, a considerable improvement in the character of crime, inasmuch as a reduction in the graver branches of the law is traceable from year to year, the preponderance being produced by those vices or delinquencies which sprung up and took root during the season of adversity. The prisoners committed during the years 1853 and 1854 were—for felony, in 1853, males, 5,013; females, 3,222; in 1854, males, 4,250; females, 2,810. For petty larceny, in 1853, males, 7,312; females, 4,539; in 1854, males, 5,734; females, 4,141. For misdemeanours, in 1853, males, 14,097; females, 8,902; in 1854, males, 11,554; females, 8,016. Under the revenue laws, in 1853, males, 367; females, 154; in 1854, males, 271; females, 92. By committal, in 1853, 152 males and in 1854, 236. Under the Vagrant Act, in 1853, males, 7,031; females, 7,653; in 1854, males, 4,792; females, 6,022. Drinkards, in 1853, males, 6,514; females, 5,350; in 1854, males, 5,823; females, 4,656. Lunatics, in 1853, males, 333; females, 232; in 1854, males, 345; females, 228; showing a grand total of 42,492 males and 30,527 females for 1853, as against 34,192 males, and 26,253 females for 1854. The deaths in 1854 were 74, or 1 in 1,000, as compared with 573 in 1850, or 1 in 200. The total expenditure of gaols in 1854 was 89,991 19s. 2d., showing an increase over 1853 of 3,325 18s. 7d., while the total expenditure of bridewells in 1854 was 6,133 7s. 1d., showing an increase over 1853 of 23 17s. 2d.; but although the expenditure of 1854 exceeds that of 1852 and 1853, the increase is accounted for by the enormous rise which has taken place in the price of provisions and necessaries, and the consequent advances in the salaries of the prison officers.

THE EXODUS.—More than one hundred persons left Limerick by the early train on Saturday morning, en route to America and Australia. The scene at parting with friends and relatives was, as usual, of the most painful description. Nearly all the emigrants were young men and young women—and those they left after them appeared to be advanced in years.—*Limerick Reporter*.

We observe with some surprise and regret that the emigration mania has again set in. During the past week large numbers of men, women, and children have left this town and neighbourhood principally for America.—*Clare Journal*.

The number of emigrants who left Cork for the United States and the colonies, via Liverpool, during the past seven weeks, was 4,486 while, in the corresponding period last year, the number was 4,388; showing an increase of 99 for the present year.

"NO POPERY."—The *Freeman's* London correspondent has the following:—"A few words on Popery, Presbyterianism, and purity. A few days ago, when the deceased wife's sister (who, by the way, threatens to become almost as great a nuisance as her departed relative was a blessing) was on the table of the House of Commons, Mr. Ker Seymour, an English Tory member, made the following observations:—"Ireland has many faults, but she has also many virtues, and I believe it cannot be questioned that in fidelity to the marriage contract, and in the general purity of the relations between the sexes, the Irish people afford an example which may well excite the envy and attract the admiration of all other portions of the United Kingdom." The obvious commentary on all this is the simple but eloquent exclamation "No Popery." Mrs. Norton has just written a letter to the Queen on the subject of the marriage law, and in the course of this epistle, which is long and rather saucy, she thus discourses, *apropos* of Scotch morality:—"Scotland is a hotbed of vice. It is a land dedicated to Cupid. Statues of Venus are set up in all the principal squares of Edinburgh. The marriage tie is a mere true lover's knot. The ladies who present themselves at Holyrood are triumphant Thessalians; and on the decks of the emigrant vessels, which crowd the harbour of Leith, groups of melancholy cast-off husbands may be seen bidding farewell to that inhospitable country where they only to be repudiated." All of which, being interpreted, meaneth—"Hurrah! for Presbyterianism."

ORANGE RIOTS.—The 12th did not, after all, pass off as quietly as some of the Orange journals boasted. The Orangemen of Ballymena were fortunate enough to succeed in getting up a riot, and indulging their favourite practice of "wrecking" and shooting "Papists." A young woman lies now in hospital at Ballymena in a dangerous state from a gun shot wound in the head, which she received during the riot.—*Louth Advertiser*.

The *Derry Sentinel*, the organ of the Orange party, has ceased its attempts to publish twice a week, after a signal failure "on the part of its advertising friends" to sustain the bi-weekly issue.