

BATTLE OF THE ALMA. DETAILS OF THE GREAT VICTORY.

(BY AN EYE WITNESS.) BATTLE OF THE ALMA, SEPTEMBER 19.—Last night the orders were given by Lord Raglan that the troops should strike tents at daylight, and that all tents should be on board the ships of the fleet.

At 2 o'clock in the morning the camp was roused by the reveille, and all the 30,000 sleepers wakened into active life. The boats from the ships lined the beach to receive the tents. The commissariat officers struggled in vain with the very deficient means at their disposal to meet the enormous requirements of an army of 35,000 men for the transport of baggage, ammunicions, and food.

The day was warm, and the heat increased by the smoke of the guns, which was everywhere in the air, and by the strong winds which were blowing from the sea.

At last the smoke of burning villages and farm-houses announced that the enemy in front was aware of our march. It was a sad sight to see the white smoke of the batteries and the flames ascending through the roofs of peaceful homesteads.

The first sight of the enemy was seen by the French on the morning of the 19th. The Russians had retired beyond the heights, and our tired men set to work to gather up their arms and baggage.

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Lord Raglan had made his dispositions the previous evening, and the Generals of Division, Sir George Brown, Sir De Lacy Evans, Sir R. England, and Sir G. Cathcart, aided by their Brigadier-General, went from Colonel to Colonel, each regiment under their command, giving them instructions with regard to the arrangement of their men for the coming struggle.

The order in which our army advanced was in columns of brigades in following distance, the left protected by a line of skirmishers of cavalry and of British artillery. The advantage of this formation was, that our army, in case of a strong attack from cavalry and infantry on the left or rear, could assume the form of a hollow square, with the baggage in the centre.

The French occupied the high road, nearest the beach, with the Turks, and the British moved to the left. At about one o'clock in the afternoon the Light Division of the French army came in sight of the village of Almatamak, and the British Light Division decided that of Berliak, both situated on the right bank of the river Alma.

A remarkable ridge of mountains, varying in height from 500 to 700 feet, runs along the course of the Alma on the left or south side with the course of the stream, and assuming the form of cliffs when close to the sea.

At the top of the ridge, between the bay and the river, the British and French armies advanced, having only the vapour and smoke of their guns for a guide. The Russian batteries were mounted on a large solid conical hill with crests at 700 and 800 yards, as the French learnt to their cost.

Large masses of cavalry, principally Lancers and heavy Dragoons, manoeuvred on the hills on the right of the Russians, and at last descended the hills, crossed the stream, and threatened our left and rear.

The Russians answered the Royal race from which he came: "Highlanders," said Sir C. Campbell, ere they came to the charge. "I am going to ask a favour of you; it is, that you will allow me to justify me in asking permission of the Queen for you to wear a bonnet! Don't pull a trigger, till you're within a yard of the Russians!"

The battle of Alma was perfect in all respects except one—the cavalry was unimpaired. The Russian cavalry covered itself with disgrace. It never gave our horse a chance of a charge, and the nature of the ground forbade our attempting a demonstration against a very superior force manoeuvring in a higher position.

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Our reader has seen that the battle of Alma was a great victory for the British and French forces. The Russian army was defeated, and the British and French forces were victorious. The battle was fought on September 19, 1854, and it was a decisive battle. The British and French forces were led by Lord Raglan and Sir George Brown, and the Russian forces were led by General Skobelev. The battle was a great victory for the British and French forces, and it was a decisive battle. The British and French forces were victorious, and the Russian army was defeated.