

bastion, and... minutes the passage of the Bay of Inkermann, by which the town obtains its supplies from the north side. When this tower fell into our hands we shall be able to sweep the bay, burn the Russian fleet, bombard the lower town, and almost immediately after install ourselves in the latter, for it can then no longer be held by the Russians. From the Malakhoff tower, beside, we can silence the Fort Constantine, destroy the stockade, and open the port to our vessels. The Russians know that well—as well as we do, and hence the terrible effort which is displayed on both sides in forming approaches, and in the partial combats which are renewed almost every night. Our newly-constructed batteries are really most formidable, especially those of Quarantine Bay and of what we call the Bay des Calais, which are armed with guns of the largest calibre, and which are destined to force the Russian fleet to seek refuge behind Fort Catherine, the sole place where they will be unable to injure us."

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle is visiting the camp at present. He arrived by the steamer *Oltava* on the 30th, and it is understood will remain in camp for a week or ten days. The troops are now in good health and cheerful, and well provided for in all respects, and a visitor may well find it difficult to understand how, only seven months back, a state of things could have existed so diametrically the reverse."

The Admiralty publishes this morning the following despatch, received late on the night of the 14th:—

"Off Swaborg, Aug. 11.—Swaborg was attacked by the mortar and gun-boats of the allied squadrons on the morning of the 9th inst. The firing ceased early this morning. Heavy explosions and very destructive fires were produced in a few hours. Nearly all the principal buildings on Vargu, and many more on Loatto, including those of the arsenal and dockyard, are burnt. Few casualties have occurred, and no lives lost in the allied fleet."

On the 16th July the allied squadron proceeded to Fort Petrovski, between Verdiansk and Marianopol, took up their positions for bombardment, and in a short time the heavy ordnance forced not only the garrison to retire from the trenches, but also kept at a respectable distance the reserve force, consisting of three strong battalions of infantry, and two squadrons of cavalry. The light boats of the squadron were then sent off to complete the destruction of the fort and batteries—a duty intrusted to Lieut. Hubert Campton, of the *Vesuvius*, and in a short time all the casemonts, gun-platforms, public buildings, corn and forage stores, were on fire, and the embrasures of the earthworks seriously injured; and although the enemy from an earthenwork to the rear opened a sharp fire upon our men, Lieut. Campton completed this service without the loss of one man. In the meantime—

"Lieut. Hewitt, in the *Bangle*, destroyed an extensive collection of fish stores and two large granaries full of corn in the neighbourhood of Verdiansk."

"After destroying Fort Petrovski, the squadron proceeded to Glogra, where some extensive corn and fish stores were destroyed by vessels under the orders of Commander Honley Lambert, of the *Carlew*, and a similar service was performed at the Crooked Spit, in the Gulf of Azoff, by vessels under the orders of Commander F. A. B. Crawford, of the *Swallow*. In the meantime, Commander Osborn reconnoitred various parts of the coast as far as Togan."

The intelligence of the bombardment of Swaborg is confirmed this morning, with the additional news that it has been successful, notwithstanding the warning of the Post that no great attack was intended. The Danzig correspondent of the *Times* tells us—

"The bombardment of Swaborg commenced at six o'clock last Thursday morning and continued until daylight on Saturday. The town itself is burnt to the ground; not one house left. The dockyards are completely destroyed. All the earthworks and batteries are knocked to pieces. Six magazines blew up. In fact, Swaborg exists no more. On our side there are very few casualties."

Admiral Peadar sends the following despatch to the French Minister of Marine, and which was posted on the Paris Bourse yesterday:—

"On board the *Tourville*, Aug. 11, 1855.—The bombardment of Swaborg by the allied squadrons has been attended with complete success. An immense conflagration, which lasted for forty-five hours, has destroyed nearly all the storehouses and magazines of the arsenal, which is a complete ruin. Various powder magazines and stores of projectiles blew up. The enemy has received a terrible blow, and suffers an enormous loss. Our loss is insignificant in men, and nothing whatever in material. The garrons are in a state of enthusiasm."

THE CHOTI NEWS FROM MADRID is that the Spanish Government has joined the Western Powers, and that a Spanish Contingent will make its appearance in the Crimea. Towards the close of July, General O'Donnell visited the Queen at Escorial, and remained with her Majesty two days. He returned to Madrid on the 1st of August. A Cabinet Council was immediately held; and it was decided that Spain should enter into a defensive and offensive alliance with England, France, and Turkey, and contribute 25,000 men towards carrying on the war. The expeditionary force, it is said, will be placed under the command of General Prim. The Western Powers have engaged to support the Spanish Government in every way against its enemies.

BY TELEGRAPH.

VARNA, 1 p.m., Aug. 16.—The Russians attacked the position on the Tchernaya this morning at day-break in great force.

The action lasted about three hours, but they were completely repulsed by the French and Sardinians. Further particulars will be sent.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Aug. 17.—The following telegraphic message has been received by Lord Panmure:—VARNA, 1 p.m. The Russian attack of the morning was under the command of General Liprandi, with from 60,000 to 65,000 men.

Their losses are estimated at between 4000 and 5000. About 400 prisoners have been taken.

The loss on the part of the Allies is very small.

VARNA, Aug. 16, 1 30 p.m.—Instead of 400 prisoners, read 4000.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Aug. 17.—Lord Panmure has received the following intelligence from General Simpson, dated Crimea, 16th August:—

"General Polissor and I have decided on opening fire from the English and French batteries at dawn to-morrow morning."

DANTZIC, Thursday, Aug. 16.—The *Vulture* has arrived with the mails. The Allied squadron had gone to Nargen from Swaborg on the 13th. Success at Swaborg was fully concluded. No ships have been severely injured, and the casualties on the English side are—killed, none; two officers and about thirty men wounded. The French loss is equally trifling.

Advices from Konigsberg state, that when the attack on Swaborg began, the Grand Duke Constantine, informed by telegraph of the event, demanded leave to go out and attack the reduced fleet before Cronstadt. The Emperor refused.

A private letter from the French Camp, dated 4th of August, says:—It is expected that a general bombardment will be kept up for six days before storming. The whole of our tremendous batteries will open at once.

LATENT.

PARIS, Friday.—The divisions engaged yesterday were those of Generals Herbillion, Carnot, Fauchoux, and Florin. Masses of the Russians (says General Pelissier) were in full retreat from the moment when our reserves, and those of our brave allies, and especially the English cavalry, came up. Our losses (less than the enemy's) are at present unknown. The Sardinians behaved admirably.

The most important item in the news from Turkey is, that a strong Russian division is marching on Erzerum, and that all the disposable Turkish forces in Anatolia are hastening towards the same place.

The *Sun* says, Gen. Canrobert has arrived in Paris.

TUNIS, Friday.—A despatch has been received from General La Marmora. He says, that the French despatches will show whether or not the Piedmontese are worthy to fight beside the French and English.—200 of the Sardinian contingent are *hors de combat*.

General Montevoglio is mortally wounded.

PORTSMOUTH, Friday night.—At 7 o'clock this evening, Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Court, embarked on board the *Victoria* and *Albert*, steamer, and started at daylight for Boulogne.

From Papers by R. M. S. America, from Boston.

IMPORTANT FROM RUSSIAN AMERICA.

DESTRUCTION OF THE RUSSIAN FORTIFICATIONS AT PETROPOLSKO—ABANDONMENT OF THE TOWN—MEDITATED ATTACK OF THE ALLIED FLEET ON THE FORTS AT AMPOR RIVER, &c.

Capt. Rogencourt, of the French big-of-war *Obligado*, arrived at San Francisco on the morning of the 18th July, with the news that the Russians had abandoned Petropaulowski some two months previous to the arrival of the combined French and English fleet, consisting of thirteen vessels.

The following particulars, obtained from Lieut. De Journal, of the *Obligado*, we take from the *Alta-California*:—

DESTRUCTION OF THE FORTS AND FLIGHT OF THE INHABITANTS.

The allied fleet, consisting of eight war vessels and steamers, arrived off Petropaulowski on the 15th of May, but the garrison had already left for the Amoor River, in the Russian frigate *Aurora*, corvette *Dvina*, and two merchant vessels. The escape of the garrison was a master stroke on the part of the Russians, who availed themselves of a dense fog which set in on the night of the 7th April, and so eluded the English war steamers *Encounter* (screw, or 14 guns, and Barakounter (sail-wheel), of 6 guns, which had been blockading the harbor for fifty days previous. The orders to evacuate were received from the Russian headquarters in Siberia. On anchoring in the harbor a detachment was sent on shore by the commanders of the fleets—Rear-Admiral Bruce of the English, and Rear-Admiral Forichon (a newly appointed and exceedingly energetic man of only 45 years of age) of the French. They landed and found the town deserted, save by about 100 Kamshatka dogs, a French naturalized American, and two Americans, who raised the stars and stripes over their houses when the forces landed, claiming that as the Russians had abandoned the place and left it to them, they were the possessors of the soil. These men are engaged in trading, and are represented as doing a good business. The dogs are in a starving condition, and followed the in-

vadern about town for bits of biscuit. One of them was brought away by commander Rogencourt of the *Obligado*. The parties were divided into companies, which proceeded to burn, blow up and destroy the arsenals, storehouses and all government buildings. Not a vestige of any public work was left standing, except the hospital, which, with the church and the dwellings of the poorer classes of the inhabitants, was left untouched. The inhabitants commenced deserting the place shortly after the garrison embarked. Accompanied by the authorities, they started on or about the 20th of April towards Tchinsk; but the Governor's wife being enfeebled, the flight continued only to the small fishing village of Avechio, some twenty miles inland.

The following day after the arrival of the allies the destruction of the fortifications commenced. These were fascines constructed of immense logs—the walls being sixteen feet in thickness. Such was their great strength, they resisted all efforts for some time, and were finally razed to the ground by the agency of gunpowder. It appears that the policy of the Russian government had changed rather suddenly in this matter. After the battle of last year orders came for strengthening the forts; and though at that time such a resistance was made as to repel the assailants, there being but one tier of guns, it was ordered to increase it to a double tier. The destroyers found embrasures for fifty-one guns of heavy calibre. Why this sudden change of policy took place may, perhaps, be explained by that on which the Russians have always acted—of retiring into the interior from their invaders, and avoiding decisive engagements. This time, however, they have made nothing by the movement, and, with the increased strength of the place, it would seem that they might have made a more obstinate resistance than before. The fleets did not leave the place until the demolition was complete.

We have been shown a despatch dated in Petropaulowski, from Rear-Admiral Fourichon, of the French fleet, in which he states, after briefly recapitulating the facts above enumerated, that the Russian garrison, numbering (as *Le Journal* informs us) some 1200 men, had doubtless sailed for the mouth of the Amoor river, which drains the southern portion of Siberia, and flows into the Gulf of Saghalien, an arm of the Sea of Ochotsk. They left for this point on the 17th of April, and were doubtless there before the French and English arrived at Kamshatka. This river is regarded as the dividing line between China and Asiatic Russia, and at its mouth is a very strong series of fortifications, which have been greatly strengthened from time to time by the Russians. It is thought by some of the officers of the *Obligado* that the immense armament of Petropaulowski was carried there with the garrison; and if this be true, there will be a western Sebastopol which may puzzle the allies as much as has the stronghold of the Crimea.

The fleets have gone to cruise for the present among the Aleutian islands, and will probably look in at Sitka. An English and French squadron have proceeded by the China Sea to the mouth of the Amoor river, where, the despatch says, there will soon be severe fighting. There are about ten ships of war in these fleets, which would be joined by the steamer *Brisk*, now at Petropaulowski. The line of battle ship *Monarch* is the flag ship of the English fleet.

The fleet sailed, with the exception of the *Trinegal*, on board of which were left two Russian prisoners, whom it was proposed to exchange for a French sailor, whose arms were amputated after being taken prisoner in the battle of last year. The American residents there report that they have lived in perfect peace and happiness with the inhabitants up to the day of their departure, and that the French and English prisoners were treated with humanity.

We learn that the above squadrons will join at Petropaulowski, whence they will proceed to this port for provisions; they may be expected in about three weeks. The officers of the *Obligado* think they will separate, the English making a rendezvous at Vancouver's Island and the French here; both fleets, however, will come directly to this port. The English frigates *Pique* and *Amphitrite* have sailed for the Sea of Ochotsk, to join the rest of the fleet; also the two steamers which were formerly employed in blockading Petropaulowski. The French steamer *Provy* will be here in a few days. The fleets will sail to the Amoor river after provisioning and fitting out at this port.

Rear Admiral Bruce, while at Petropaulowski, caused a handsome fence to be erected around the cemetery in which were buried the bodies of the killed of the Russians and allies, in the battle of last year. A large tablet, bearing a Russian inscription in commemoration of the fight, was erected, which, as it refers to all alike, will doubtless be respected when the Russian inhabitants return.

WEST INDIES.

From Kingston (Jamaica) we have files dated to the 14th of August. A serious riot had occurred in Kingston between the negro soldiers stationed in the barracks and the people and police. The soldiers had assaulted the citizens wantonly. The August holidays were being celebrated. Anniversary day had passed over without notice. Emigration from Europe was recommended as a means of relieving the density of the island. In the Kingston markets trade was inactive. In Antigua the weather was favorable and the cost of labor was high. St. Christopher's had been visited with earthquakes. An immigration bill had been passed in the Legislature. St. Vincent was healthy, with stormy weather.