

OMAR PACHA IN CIRCASSIA.

Souchum Kaleh, Oct. 12.—If the interest of the public in England with respect to the Georgian campaign is increasing as rapidly as the plot is thickening here, the proceedings of Omar Pacha's army will soon be as closely watched as those of Generals Simpson and Pelissier, and they will be as well worthy of attention. Not only are the green hillsides of Souchum becoming every day more thickly dotted with tents, but a great part of the army has already commenced moving along the line of march; and, as the character of the country through which they are about to pass is now acquiring a special interest, I was glad to avail myself of the opportunity which was afforded to me of accompanying a small reconnaissance which was made a few days ago to the Mingrelian frontier. Our party consisted only of Mr. Longworth, the English Commissioner, and his secretary, Mr. Champoiseau; Colonel Ballard, of the Turkish army, who has followed its fortunes ever since the siege of Silistria; the Commander of the French brig of war La Vigle, and myself.

The Abasian houses are made generally of wattle, and thatched with Indian corn. In most of the villages, there are both Christian and Mussulman inhabitants, but none of the women cover their faces, or are more shy than savages generally. The men are afraid of committing themselves by hospitality to strangers in time of war, and profess sympathy with the invaders. How far this is genuine, it is difficult to judge. The country is thinly populated, and we only pass two or three villages before reaching Shemsherrai, the first important place upon the line of march, about 33 miles from Souchum, and situated upon the sea, 3 miles from the point at which the road strikes into the interior. We found that it was not safe to proceed by land beyond this point. A Russian force of 4000 men are stationed at Sugdidi, 12 miles distant, and the intermediate country was completely in the hands of the Russians, and occupied by Mingrelian militia. We heard here that a number of Cossacks and militia were at Anaklea, and it was important to discover the truth of the rumour; we therefore embarked on board the Cyclops and La Vigle, which met us here, and proceeded to the mouth of the Ingour. Fort Anaklea is a picturesque ruin, situated on the left bank of the river, and surrounded by a dense forest. As we saw smoke rising from behind the fort, it was judged necessary to enter the river with an armed force, in the event of an ambush. Seven boats, with a force of about seventy men, under Lieutenant Ballard, of the Cyclops, and Lieutenant Vilmorin, of the Vigle, pulled towards the mouth of the river, which was completely commanded by the guns of the vessels. We found five feet of water upon the bar of the Ingour, which is one of the most considerable streams upon this coast. Upon our party landing at the fort they came upon the smoking embers of a fire, which our guide told us was that of the militia; not a human being seemed in the neighbourhood, and the wood seemed so thick that we did not anticipate much warning from the men stationed in the maintop of the Cyclops to give an alarm. We proceeded up to the bank of the river for some time, and came upon the remains of the village of Anaklea, of which a few charred logs alone remain. Having satisfied our curiosity, we were returning to the boats, when two shots from the Cyclops threw our party into a state of some excitement. We immediately threw out skirmishers to protect our embarkation, and soon after saw a large group of persons collected at some distance up the river. As they seemed to be people of the country, Messrs. Longworth and Champoiseau went up with a flag of truce, with M. De Vilmorin, our guide, and myself.

One of the group, putting his white cap upon the top of his gun, by way of responding to our flag, by way of responding to our flag, we heard from him that the immediate neighbourhood of Anaklea was comparatively free of Russians, that the nearest large force lay at a distance of nine miles off, and that they rarely visited Anaklea. The people themselves professed themselves in the highest degree friendly, and we gave them a sovereign to cement the alliance.

From the accounts of these men, the whole Russian force within a circuit of fifteen miles from Anaklea amounts to 10,000 men. The most important point, and the one at which the first struggle may be anticipated, is at the fortress of Ruchi, about six miles beyond Sugdidi, and about sixty from Souchum Kaleh.

Taking the Vigle in tow, we returned to Shemsherrai the same evening. It is a considerable place, at present only partly inhabited. The Greek and Russian population have shut up their shops and decamped, and the Turkish merchants have it all their own way. Prince Michael has a handsome house here, built of wood in the Russian style. It is his principal residence. At a distance of three hours' journey in the mountains are his game preserves, where he strictly prohibits any one from poaching his wild boar, with sheep, and deer.

The limits of Prince Michael's jurisdiction in this direction are not very clearly defined. He claims Samursachan, a province lying between Abasia and Mingrelia, on the frontier of which Shemsherrai is situated, and the people of Anaklea professed to owe him allegiance, but it is very certain, that his powers of protection do not extend beyond Shemsherrai. As we rode out of the town, on our way back to Souchum, we found that there was an addition to our party, and we were soon after enlightened upon the subject by the arrival of an Abasian, who pronounced himself to be the slave of a Turk in Shemsherrai. He spoke to one of our servants, who was a Pole, and informed him that he and six of his unfortunate compatriots were at that moment slaves to Turks in Shemsherrai. We assured him that his freedom would be obtained, but insisted upon his returning; for the masters of the other slaves, finding we had liberated one, would have scented the others; they are now thrown completely off their guard, and Omar Pacha has since assured me of his intention to liberate them.

The road generally follows the sea-coast, crossing the mouths of innumerable rivers, the bridges over which are almost invariably destroyed. We slept at a large village upon the other side of the Kodor, in a magnificent situation; the lofty elm trees being completely hidden by masses of wild vine. Here we were hospitably received, a comfortable hut was placed at our disposal, soft coverlets and pillows were arranged upon wooden stretchers, and we passed a most civilized night. The staple food of the country is pasta, or Indian corn bread, almost exactly similar to that of the States, and quite as good. The cheese is eatable, but very salt, and boiled pumpkin is popular. Fruit is abundant; so that, for a wild country, the living is, upon the whole, above the average. When we were within a few miles of Souchum, we met three squadrons of cavalry, the *avant garde* of the army which is now moving into Mingrelia; our information about the road was therefore very acceptable, and I was rather astonished at the rapidity with which Omar Pacha is hurrying on his campaign. In spite of his energy, however, the number of bridges which must be constructed along the first 40 miles of his march will necessarily retard the progress of his army, and ten days or a fortnight must elapse before he finds himself in face with the enemy. Meantime troops are disembarking with their usual rapidity; the Great Britain has disgorged 1,800 men in an incredibly short time, and returned for more. She brought Col. Simmonds from Balaklava. There have been 20,000 men landed with in the last fortnight. The Duke of Newcastle has also arrived in the Highflyer, from Anapa and Soudjak. On their way the Highflyer picked up the Naib, who was coming to pay Omar Pacha a visit. He declares his expedition against the Russians to have been eminently successful, which is somewhat at variance with the report of the Karachai men, to which I alluded in my last letter. At all events, Omar Pacha evidently has a high opinion of his power and influence in the country, as he has appointed him Civil Governor of all the provinces of Circassia, from the country of Schamyli to the provinces of Tehapsugh and Natquoitch, which are at present under the jurisdiction of Sefer Pacha. The terms of his bouyourouldi are almost identical with

those of Prince Michael; the object of the appointment is in both cases the same.

Invested with authority from so high a source, and in a manner calculated to impress the natives of the country who witnessed the ceremony, he goes back to his government under the most favourable auspices, and there can be no doubt that in adopting this course Omar Pacha has done more towards utilizing the Circassians than could have been effected by the most elaborate and judicious treatment of the individual and petty chiefs. These will now be afraid to resist the will of the Naib, who, owing everything to Omar Pacha, will be a useful instrument in his hands. The great difficulty in dealing with the Circassians lies in the fact, that they are determined to be subjects of the Porte, in spite of the Porte itself; indeed, it has always (publicly at least) disclaimed the idea of appropriating territory in this direction; and it is evident that it is no less the interest of Turkey than of the allied Powers to abstain from any such addition to the Ottoman dominions. No treaty of peace with Russia which depended upon the forbearance of these mountain tribes, would be worth a rush, and we should be continually embroiled with Russia if we attempted to preserve "the independence and integrity of the Ottoman empire" upon the Kuban; while a frontier composed of such materials would be an endless source of annoyance to the Porte. It is probable that Omar Pacha sees this as well as many of the more intelligent Turks, and has constituted the Naib as a supreme authority, with the fullest expectation that the Allied Powers will render him ultimately independent. At present no human being whose power was not derived from the one venerated source could acquire any influence among these bigotted mountaineers. It is in his acute perception of these leading features of the internal policy of Circassia that Omar Pacha has proved himself a skillful diplomatist; and perhaps it may be questioned how far it was a wise measure to form a commission independent of him to settle all political and civil questions in the theatre of his present operations. Such a commission has nevertheless been formed, and it will call for the utmost discretion on the part of the gentlemen composing it in the exercise of their functions; the political complications in Mingrelia and Georgia and the other Transcaucasian provinces are infinite, and offers of assistance upon certain conditions have been and certainly will again be made. Omar Pacha will want to promise everything, so as not to compromise the safety of his army. The Civil Commissioners will promise nothing, so as not to compromise their Governments. They will both be perfectly justified in their separate lines of conduct. How far the great cause which we all have at heart will be benefited by the result, it is for others to determine, and I have no doubt that Omar Pacha, on the one hand, and Messrs. Longworth and Champoiseau and Emin Bep, on the other, will do all in their power to avoid what appears to be almost the inevitable consequences of the position in which they are placed with reference to one another.

Oct. 13.—This morning our slumbers were disturbed by the thunder of cannon, and we saw the ships in the harbour decked out with flags. We found the cause of these rejoicings to be the arrival of despatches from Kars, announcing the total defeat of the Russian army investing that city, with an enormous loss, the particulars of which have, doubtless, reached you. Looking out of my window, I saw Omar Pacha informing his army of the fact, which they received with loud cheers. It was an inspiring sight after having exhorted his soldiers to march to the entire annihilation of the army which their comrades have almost destroyed, to see his Highness, upon a prancing charger, leading his battalions to the war. 5000 men, with two batteries of artillery, followed him along the Kutais-road. The moment was well chosen, and the music of their bands harmonised well with the booming of the heavy guns, which were still celebrating the victory. The troops were in good heart, and have perfect confidence in their general, and in the successful issue of the campaign in which they are engaged. It is much to be regretted,

that its importance does not yet seem to have been recognised in England, when the attention of the Government cannot be diverted from the Crimea. If, instead of sending the contingent to Kertch, it had been put under Omar Pacha's orders, its services would be made more available, and a good moral effect would be produced among the Turkish troops, who are already beginning to recognise the merits of English officers. At present, if Omar Pacha succeeds, his triumph will not be the less complete that it has been won in spite of obstacles thrown in his way by the allied powers.

POSITION OF THE ALLIES.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* publishes a letter from Kamiech, from which we extract the following:—"The cannonade has entirely ceased for some days at Sebastopol. The Russi as however, continue to throw from the north an occasional shell or shot into the town. They appear now and then to feel a remorse of conscience at having left some houses standing in the place, and they are endeavouring, without much success, to continue at a distance their work of destruction. They may also wish to consume their ammunition previous to their departure, for they are actually making preparations indicative of an intention to evacuate the northern position. Thus we lately saw an immense fire blazing on the left side of Fort Catherine. The first man who perceived it was a sailor on the watch, who exclaimed, 'The Russians are going to decamp.' It is not extraordinary that he should have thought so, for it is thus the Muscovites generally shift their quarters; they set on fire and destroy everything they cannot take with them. They were probably burning in Fort Catherine their provisions, or, perhaps, the coal deposited there for the supply of their steamers, which are now at the bottom of the sea. The next day we despatched another conflagration in the direction of Bakhchisarai, the fort, no doubt, of another evacuation. In the meantime the French and English who are not ordered on some expedition are quietly making preparations to spend the winter as comfortably as possible. Our allies display in that respect an exceedingly profitable ardour, for they are busily engaged building for themselves huts, chimneys, roads, wooden and even stone houses. The general works, the imperial roads particularly, are progressing rapidly. The Crimea will be indebted to us for the importation of a useful invention, that of draining. All the pools of stagnant water, so injurious to the health of our men, have now entirely disappeared. Large and deep losses surround our principal batteries, the hospitals, and stores, and small trenches encircle the other edifices. Finally, we are certain of being abundantly and regularly supplied with provisions during the winter, and we carelessly await the return of that season on which the Russians so confidently relied to force us to evacuate the Crimea."

The Prussian Government continues exceedingly anxious to discredit the rumour of its being employed to offer propositions of peace from Russia. A high personage is reported to have said of the Emperor of Russia—"He might as well sign his abdication as talk of peace."

A letter from Berlin, says:—"The members of the old nobility of Prussia still refuse to take their seats in the First Chamber on the opening of the approaching session, unless the government shall consent to restore the privileges (exemption from taxation and military service, &c.) of which they were deprived in 1848. Negotiations were recently undertaken between them and the government on the subject, but they led to no result; the King, however, has ordered that they shall be resumed."

THE YOUNG PRUSSIAN PRINCE.—According to the orders of the King of Prussia, Prince Frederick William, son of the Prince of Prussia, is henceforth to take part in the sittings of the Council of State, and also in the business at the different ministries, in order to become initiated in public affairs.

Eighty Years a Prisoner.—A tough and hardy old fellow recently passed through Lyons, France, on his way to Savoy, his native country. No less than eighty years ago, when he was forty-one, he was sentenced to the French galleys, for life for some crime. At the commencement of our revolution, being then a middle-aged man, he was shot out from the world. The other day he was released at the age of one hundred and twenty-one. No cause is assigned, but the probability is that the government thought he had worked out more than a natural life in the galleys, and that he was past doing any harm. It is said that he has a little property in Savoy, the interest on which has been accumulating exactly one hundred years, or since he arrived at the age of twenty-one. The old fellow enjoys perfect health, although he stoops so much that his face nearly touches his knees.

GENERAL INT

AMERICAN SERVICE TO GREATS.—It will be remembered that the schooner Car-line E. F. bound for Hakadodi by changed her route on at place for the purpose of Paulowski a Russian A who had been wrecked on near Simoda.

The Captain who was bonus of \$1,000 for the his seamen \$6 a month wages, but they refuse and required also, as if and ammunition as well capt. should give them holding them harmless This being denied, the ship, when they were water and the vessel m of the Russian admiral Petropulowski, they dy by Russian soldiers their own captain, and and unhealthy prison, the space of four or five native was finally pres sent into the interior of the vessel. They accu native, returned with and thence to San Fra Upon their arrival b brought an action wit ted States' Court ag increase of wages: a in their favor, giving from the time of devi

The Barbadoes *Liber* particulars relative to t lately swept or that I

From a little after 5, p the North-west, blowing a increasing very gradually until a little after midnig its height. The wind sul the south, where it has o the day.

The damage on shore, of some of the more low trivial, but we regret to s in the Bay have been str lives. The Brig New t went ashore on the Fur the Captain (Haynes) an the Barque William Larz ashore near the Pier, hig of Dominica, 59 tons, ps and went ashore opposi her crew, Alexander M. was washed overboard casualties is Captain Kir Duane, in the Care whilst assisting to secure The bodies of Capti Martin have been pick others not yet found.

INDUSTRY AND SU being found in a r extraordinary displi ment by his brot questioned by a frio replied—"I have has contrived to m of the family; but when we were at work." The force creased by the fact considered not inf his brother, yet while the other die Don't trust to get rise; but work!" w

COLD FEET.—I with cold and I know there are m to plunge them in dry just before chilliness replace glow, amply sati It will also prov king cold by havi

JERUSALEM.—cribes the rejoic lem and in the l of the intelligenc The Greek and displayed an ill Their patriarch thanks for that a of the Holy Sep to the request of Kiamil, Pasha, ny, than from si joicings at Jeri days.