

and be turned to dust. Grant, therefore, that to-day I may hear thy voice. And if this day be obscure in the calendar, and remarkable in itself for nothing else, give me to make it memorable in my soul, hereupon, by Thy assistance, beginning the reformation of my life.—*Fuller.*

News Department.

From Papers by H. M. S. America, August 4.

ENGLAND.

In the House of Commons the vote for the North-West Passage drew forth high eulogies of the gallant conduct, heroic daring, the extraordinary skill, and the undaunted resolution shown by Captain M'Clure in taking up this enterprise at the point where Sir J. Parry and other explorers had left it, and in bringing it to a successful completion:—

"His wonderful efforts," said Mr. Butt, "in navigating his ship round the western coast of Bohring' Land, and in braving the dangers of a rocky iron-bound coast on the one hand, and the fearful perils of the ice on the other, were altogether unparalleled; and nothing had ever more impressed his (Mr. Butt's) imagination or riveted his interests than the details of this remarkable achievement. On entering Parry's Sound, Captain M'Clure came to the conclusion that the land lying to the westward was an island, and by resolutely acting upon that opinion, and sailing round that island, he ultimately set at rest that long uncertain question—the existence of a north-west passage."

"Mr. F. Scully asked why Captain M'Clure was not to receive the sum of £20,000 originally offered for the discovery of a north-west passage, instead of only £5,000?"

"Mr. I. Butt said that the sum of £20,000 was offered before any part of this passage was discovered, and the persons entitled to it were not only required to discover the passage, but to bring a ship through. Captain M'Clure had not brought his vessel through, but he had demonstrated that the passage was impracticable. The sum of £5,000 was not intended as an adequate recompense for his services, but merely as some acknowledgement by the nation of their valour."

"Admiral Walcott also explained that £5,000 had been voted to Sir J. Parry, and £5,000 to Sir J. Ross; and the present vote of £10,000, therefore, exhausted the entire £20,000 which had been alluded to."

"Sir Charles Wood informed the house that the monument to Sir John Franklin was to be erected at Greenwich, from a design by Westmacott, and on it was to be inscribed the names of Sir E. Parry, and all the officers and men of the expedition."

The long looked-for launch of the splendid vessel *Marlborough*, yesterday, resulted in "a pretty fix." The Queen and Court, the Lords of the Admiralty, members of Parliament, and thousands of spectators, went down to Portsmouth, and every preparation was made for rendering the spectacle as splendid as could be. It rained in torrents, but nevertheless some 5,000 persons were present. The tale is thus told by the *Times* reporter:—

"On ascending to the platform at the stern Mr. Abthell, the Master-Shipwright of Portsmouth Dockyard, was presented to her Majesty, and gave into her hands the gilded bottle of wine which hung suspended, and which, at twelve o'clock, her Majesty dashed against the cut-water, pronouncing simultaneously, 'Success to the *Marlborough*.' Shouts arose on all sides, the bands of the Guard of Honour and of the Dockyard Brigade played the National Anthem and 'Rule, Britannia,' and the Court returned to the Royal pavilion to see the ship emerge from the shed. Mr. Abthell then gave the orders to the artificers below to knock away the blocks, which occupied an ominously long time; at length, at twenty-five minutes past twelve, she moved, a general salvo from the lungs of the countless thousands proclaimed the fact, and never did ship appear likely to take the water more satisfactorily, until she got two-thirds out of the shed, when, to the astonishment of everybody, she slowly brought up, as if checked by some mighty influence, and remained immovable on the ways, the bows remaining under the shed and the after-body in the harbour. So unlooked for a casualty took every one by surprise, while the enthusiasm which greeted her start from the slip subsided into silence; meanwhile, the ship hung fast, and there we were obliged to leave her."

The Queen and the Prince remained some moments contemplating the *Marlborough* in her unexpected "fix," but, finding that there appeared no prospect of her moving further, left the scene, accompanied by the Court, for the Admiralty-house, to the *déjeuner*. A subsequent telegraph despatch, however, dated half past twelve last night, states—

"The *Marlborough*, through the united and energetic exertions of 2,000 men, was safely got off, and the enthusiastic cheers of those engaged, about mid-

night, and now lies afloat and safely secured in the harbour."

Lieutenant the Hon. Edward Fitzclarence, wounded in the attack on the Redan, has died in consequence of his wound. He was grandson of King William IV., being the youngest son of the late Earl of Munster, and had just completed his eighteenth year.

It is said that General the Earl of Westmorland, now Colonel of the 66th Regiment, will succeed Lord Raglan as Colonel of the Royal Horse Guards. Lord Westmorland who entered the army in 1803, served with great distinction in Egypt, the Peninsula, and Italy. He has a Peninsula medal with four clasps for Rolota, Vimiera, Talavera, and Boraco.

The statement that the Duke of Cambridge will command the Foreign Legion is contradicted; and it is added that his groggs and stud, left at Scutari in expectation of his return to the Crimea, have been ordered home.

The last advertisement of the Patriotic Fund states the amount already subscribed at £1,171,270 16s. 4d., and the number of orphans now receiving relief at 2,200.

The example set by Dr. McNeill of preaching on the Exchange-flag, was followed by clergymen of several denominations on Sunday. Many persons assembled on the Exchange, expecting to hear Dr. McNeill, but the rev. gentleman did not make his appearance, doubtless in reference to the expressed opinions of the Rev. A. Campbell, rector. Some other preacher, however, supplied his place, but seemingly without effecting any practical good, for, according to a case at the police court next day, the pickpockets were busily engaged under his very eyes.—*Liverpool Times.*

Rear-Admiral Sir William Call, K. C. B., whose flag-ship now lies in our harbour, has just been appointed to succeed the late Captain Parry in the lieutenant-governorship of Greenwich Hospital. The appointment, we believe, is worth £800 a year, with a suite of apartments, the gallant officer being, in addition, entitled to retain his half-pay.—*Cork Reporter.*

The official report gives the amount subscribed for the new French loan at the enormous sum of three thousand six hundred millions of francs, £144,000,000 sterling! or more than five times the amount required. The subscribers number 310,000. The subscriptions of 50f. reach 230,000,000f. These latter are accepted in full.

RUSSIA.

From our own Correspondent.—"Heights above Sebastopol, July 17, 1855.—"For the present the storming of the Malakhoff and Redan forts seems to be abandoned. The object the allied commanders have in view appears to be the destruction of the Russian ships of war. Were they sunk, then the possession of these forts would be facilitated, for they support the fire of the Malakhoff and Redan. The British are pushing forward their works on the left attack, so as at least to threaten the enemy's fleet, but the French are constructing a battery specially for the purpose of battering to pieces this hitherto indestructible part of the enemy's means of resistance."

"The position of this battery is between the Mamelon and the harbour or estuary. A number of very large guns and also of mortars is to be placed there. Very sanguine expectations are entertained by the French of the result which will attend the opening of this formidable battery. Past calculations have, however, turned out so fallacious, that it would be quite rash in us to coincide in such a flattering prospect. The experiment will be made in a few days, and it is better to wait than to run the risk of deceiving ourselves and others. It is not at all likely that the Russians have been idle during the time the French have been throwing up their works. It ought not, therefore, to surprise us to find the effect of the French guns neutralised."

"In the meantime, sorties from the Russian lines on the workmen in the new battery and on the adjoining positions of the French are of nightly occurrence. Last night there were two, both of which ended in the repulse of the enemy. Many large guns then opened, and the air was literally rent for some time with their fire, and that of the musketry. The loss on the French side was not great."

"The Sardinians are engaged in putting their quarters in a state of order and comfort, a very necessary precaution against the severe weather which a stay for the winter is certain to expose them to."

"Omer Pacha is simply occupying the share of the lines which has fallen to him. There he stands to his old rule of avoiding all unnecessary collisions with the

enemy, and of considering the lives of his soldiers as of more value than fruitless victories."

"Many of our soldiers seem to be in the enjoyment of as much health and vigour as if in their native country, but still there is a considerable number during the last ten days whose constitutions have yielded to the influence of dysentery and diarrhoea."

"The climate of the Crimea seems to agree better with the French than with the British, for their sick in proportion to their numbers is certainly much less than ours. To their style of living, more than to anything else, their superior sanitary condition may be ascribed. With them wine is the most essential thing. It is light and nutritious. With us beef is the main thing. The ration beef is tough, hard, indigestible. It weakens the bowels, and contributes greatly to bring on diarrhoea and dysentery. Would it not be advisable to assimilate the fare of our soldiers in a certain degree to that of the French?"

"For several days the weather has been cool; to-day heavy rains fell, the chief benefit of which will be the prevention of the surface of the earth turning to dust for some time. The breeze which we have so frequently here render dust on the surface of the earth a very serious inconvenience. Far less annoyance from insects is experienced here than could have been anticipated. In this respect the soldier in his canvas tent suffers much less than the occupant of the finest palace on the Bosphorus. The common fly is the only animal of the insect tribe who is any way troublesome. We ascribe the absence of the other more dreaded members of the genus so prevalent in the East to the chilly character of the nights in the Crimea. A Turkish quilt, which is equal to at least two or three blankets, is barely sufficient at this season, the least cold of any part of the year, to keep one warm in bed."

"Among the chaplains here the only change of late has been the removal of the Rev. Mr. Cropper to Balaklava, in room of Mr. Maynard, whose bad state of health has compelled him to revisit England. Mr. Hewitt, from Kuluhi, takes his place in the Second Division. We have got no reserves—a very serious want. Unwillingness to leave their posts unoccupied induces chaplains often to remain after their health has broken down, and recovery consequently becomes more than doubly difficult and uncertain."

Another affair at Raumo may help to teach us the value the Russians set on a flag of truce. Information had been received that several merchant vessels were lying in the harbour:—

"The boats of the *Driver* were accordingly manned, armed, and sent into the harbour, hoisting a flag of truce, to demand that these vessels should be given up, threatening that if this demand was refused summary measures should be taken to punish the authorities in the shape of burning and destroying the town, and otherwise ill-treating the peaceful inhabitants of Raumo. A venerable gentleman, calling himself the chief magistrate of the place, most humbly informed the British officer, that for the sake of humanity he trusted that he would not proceed to extremities; that of course the vessels were at his command; all he had to do being to take peaceful possession. The boats accordingly pulled towards the vessels. Previous to boarding, to take them in tow, it was thought advisable to haul down the flag of truce; the moment this was done, from every house and from every bush, from behind every corner, bang went the deadly Minié rifle, and grape from field-pieces. Seven men were put hors de combat at the first volley, two killed, and five wounded. Seeing nothing but certain death could result from either opposition or perseverance in their object, a precipitate retreat was made, and so ended this unfortunate affair, which already is magnified by the Russians into a defeat."

TURKEY.

Omer Pacha is at Constantinople, consulting on the affairs of Asia. He offered, it is said, to take the command himself, but the Sultan refused to spare him from the Crimea. During his absence Osman Pacha had been named Commander-in-Chief *ad interim*. The news from Asia is uncertain, as usual. The Russian General Mouravieff reports his operations down to 25th June. On the 18th, by a flank march, he passed Kars, receiving no interruption from the garrison, and took up a position on the Ezeroum road at Mougardjik, shutting up the garrison of Kars and ravaging the country, in which he was hindered very much by the rain. Accounts from Ezeroum of the 10th state that Schamyl [not yet dead] was expected to descend from the mountains and march on to Tiflis.

Ali Pacha has drawn up a project relative to Christians in Turkey, in which he proposes to extend all