

The parapet at the salient itself was seventeen feet high, and on the left face fifteen feet above the surface of the ground. The ditch, eleven feet deep, varied in width from twenty feet at the salient to fifteen feet on the faces. As the work was open in the rear, we could not have held it, even if we had got in, so long as the enemy was still in the Bastion du Mât, Barrack, and Malakoff batteries.

The glacis of the Redan was the natural surface of the ground, which met in a ridge on the line of the capital; every part was seen, to some degree, from the adjoining flanks, but these were on a much lower level than the salient. Nevertheless the glacis itself was exposed to fire from the Barrack and Garden batteries, and from the Gervais and other Malakoff batteries. The slope up which the stormers were to pass was covered by long, rank grass, and seamed with holes made by the explosion of mortar-shell, by innumerable rifle-trenches, and by some disused gravel-pits.

The brigade orders issued by the commanding Royal Engineers, laid down that that the Redan was to be assaulted by three columns.

Each column was composed and was to move as follows:—

Advanced party:—

Sappers.....	10
Skirmishers.....	100
Ladder party.....	120
Men carrying bags of hay or wool..	50

Storming party:

Bayonets.....	400
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Reserve:—

Bayonets.....	800
Workmen.....	400

The left column (No. 1), under command of Major-General Sir John Campbell, was to march on the reentering angle formed by the right face of the work and its flank, about sixty yards west of the salient. The right column (No. 3), under Acting Brigadier General Colonel Yea, was to enter the Redan at the opposite point to No. 1 column.

The orders for the centre column (No. 2) were ambiguous. They were

To advance upon the salient of the Redan, and force its way into the work.

If the columns 1 and 3 have been successful, No. 2 will remain as a reserve to the columns in its front.

No. 2, after entering the Redan, is to consider itself as a Reserve, and not to advance beyond the lodgement, which the workmen will have commenced.

From the above it was understood that the centre column (No. 2) was not to go forward until those on the flanks had to carry the work, but the order is equally open to the construction that this column was to deliver the assault simultaneously with the others, and was to become the reserve after the lodgement had been effected. It is, however, clear, from Lord Raglan's despatch dated 19th June, 1855, that the centre column was to start after the moving on the flanks of the Redan. This was the most unfortunate because the salient was the safest line of advance, and the least swept by shells on the 18th June.

These arrangements apparently contemplated that, covered by the fire of two hundred skirmishers, eight hundred men were to advance for a distance of between four hundred and five hundred yards over open ground, and accompanied by men carrying heavy ladders, eighteen feet in length.

There has been no account written, either clear or satisfactory to my mind, of the proceeding of the left column, detailed to attack the right face (proper) of the Redan. Mr. Kinglake, who shows generally a most generous appreciation of the rank and file, has, in an apparent endeavor to smooth over the defeat, done but scant justice to some of our comrades. His descriptions were doubtless based on what he has been told by officers engaged in the struggle, and I, therefore, quote (but not verbatim) sufficient extracts to show generally what he intended to convey:—

The head of the left assaulting column crossed the parapet on the signal being given, but the one hundred skirmishers or covering party hung back under the slope close to the western face of the Quarries, and caused others to halt. The foot soldier seemed averse to carrying burdens over a vast space under torrents of fire without having his rifle in his hand. The guiding Engineer was immediately mortally wounded. Colonel Tylden impatiently cheered on the men, asking what they were stopping for? At this moment Lieutenant Graham, who had charge of the ladder party, seeing the im-

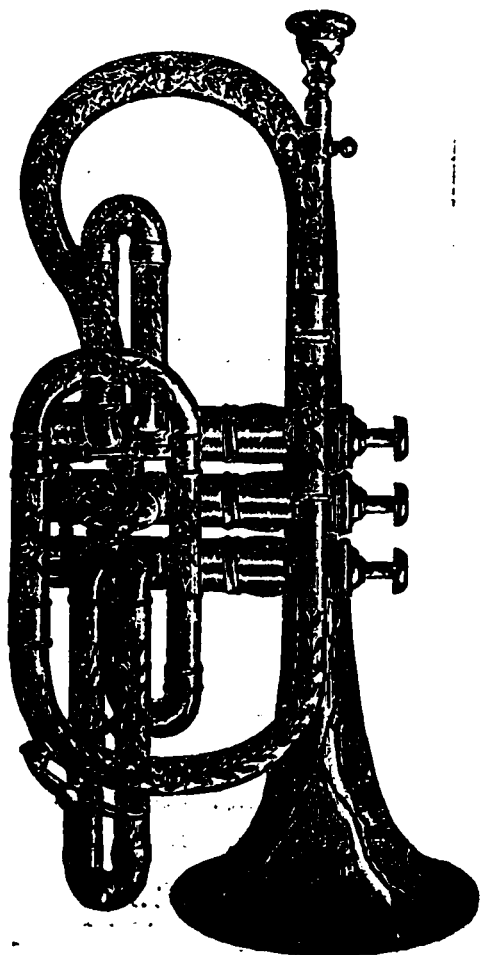
possibility of getting up on the face of the work, asked if he might lead it on the salient, and the colonel replied: "Anywhere as long as you get on," but almost at the same moment the colonel fell mortally wounded. Graham carried his chief a few paces back to a more sheltered spot, and then turned back to the ladder party. The sailors were awaiting orders, but the soldier ladder party had disappeared, and eventually Graham, after showing the most distinguished courage himself, moved the naval ladder party into the trench, although the men protested that they were willing to go forward with him without any others.

Mr. Kinglake goes on to say, that when the storming party wanted to cross the parapet, the men were stopped and even turned from their course by soldiers who, having absented themselves from their divisions without leave, had crowded into the trench to take part in attack; therefore the storming party filed off to the left, moving westward, and on coming to the end of an unfinished parapet, thence got up to the Artakoff battery, *i.e.*, the one on the proper right flank of the Redan. It is obvious that all the stormers had only to follow the general, as some did, and they would have immediately disengaged themselves from the intruding soldiery; moreover Mr. Kinglake weakens his explanation later in his narrative, when he makes Colonel Lord West, who succeeded to the command on Sir John Campbell being killed, lament the fact of there being a parapet to cover the men, for he thought if there had been no shelter he might have induced them to advance.

Mr. Kinglake says that when the stormers went forward in the wrong direction, they were brought back with a loss of only three or four men, but he omits to mention that our burying parties found more dead bodies grouped around Sir John Campbell, and that out of four hundred rank and file, the left storming party lost, in the twenty minutes' work, one hundred and thirteen men, killed and wounded, of whom nine were officers.

TO BE CONTINUED.]

The annual convention of the Canadian Order of Home Circles, which has proved a very successful gathering, was brought to a close at Toronto Friday.



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