

The Church.

"Her Foundations are upon the holy hills."

"Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls."

TORONTO, CANADA, JULY 5, 1855.

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Vol. XVIII.]

Poetry.

THE ANGEL AND THE CHILD.
FROM THE FRENCH, BY JANE NEBOUL.
An angel form, with brow of light,
Watched o'er a sleeping infant's dream,
And gazed as though his visage bright
Was there beheld as in a stream.

"Fair child, whose face is like to mine,
Oh, come," he said, "and fly with me;
Come forth to happiness divine,
For earth is all unworthy thee."

"Here, perfect bliss thou canst not know;
The soul amidst its pleasures sighs;
All sounds of joy are full of woe;
Enjoyments are but miseries.

"Fear stalks amidst the gorgeous shows
And, though serene the day may rise,
It lasts not brilliant to its close,
And tempests sleep in calmest skies."

"Alas, shall sorrow, doubts and fears
Defeat a brow so pure as this?
And shall the bitterness of tears
Dim those blue eyes that speak of bliss?"

"No, not along the realms of space,
Far from all care let us begone;
Kind Providence shall give thee grace
For those few years thou mightest live on."

"No mourning weeds, no sound of wail,
Thy cheerless spirit shall annoy;
Thy kindred shall thy absence wail,
Even as they coming gave thee joy."

"No cloud on any brow shall rest,
Nought speaks of tomb or sadness there;
Of things like thee, pure and blest,
The latest flower shall be most fair."

The angel shook his snowy wings,
And through the fields of ether sped,
Where Heaven's eternal music rings—
Mother, alas! thy son is dead!

Selected.

MODERN SPIRITUALISM.

1. *New Testament "Miracles," and Modern "Miracles," the comparative evidence for each.* The Nature of both. Testimony of a hundred witnesses. An Essay, read before the Middle and Senior Classes in Cambridge Divinity School, by J. H. Fowler. Boston: 1854. pp. 101.
2. *Spiritualism*, by J. W. Edmonds and George Dexter, M.D. Vol. II. Third Edition. New York: Partridge & Brittan, 1855.
3. *Modern Spiritualism; its facts and fancies, its consistencies and contradictions, with an Appendix*, by E. W. Capron. Boston: 1855.
4. *The Apocatastasis; or Progress backwards*, by A. Tract for the Times. By the Author. Burlington, Vt: Goodrich. 1854.

We do not propose to spend any time upon a regular review of either of the books whose titles are given above. As contributions to letters or to science, none of them, except the last, has merit enough to entitle it to any consideration; and the Apocatastasis is so unfortunate in its method and its tone, as greatly to diminish the claims upon our attention, which the obvious learning, and we think right intention of its author would otherwise have entitled him to receive. There is however a great deal in his book that will repay the reader. The author is evidently a thinker, and a man of learning; but his work impresses us, as designed more to display his learning, and give vent to a somewhat elephantine jocosity, than singly intended to combat and explode a most dangerous delusion with the sound arguments of eternal truth as revealed to us by God; the only arguments that in such a matter can avail. Modern Spiritualism professes to be a revelation from the Most High God in its facts and its teachings. It is therefore, (even if it be altogether a delusion of the disordered intellect, in its beginnings) entirely too serious in its consequences for ridicule, however learned. We fear that it presents so much which is attractive to the mind and to the affections of men, that ridicule will only react to increase the number of its adherents. We hope that the learned author will take this point into consideration, and in a future edition, which we have no doubt will be called for, correct what in the present seems to us to be calculated rather to frustrate than advance the end, which we are persuaded he desires as earnestly and on the same grounds as ourselves.

We stand upon the firm foundations of two things—neither of which we shall argue to our readers, or any calling themselves Christians, as we suppose all such to admit them both; the *infallible truth*, and the *finality of the Scriptures*. But while we will not bring these points into controversy, as things to be disputed by any to whom or for whom we write, we shall anticipate some objections to the business we have taken in hand, and endeavor to answer them.

Some of our readers may suppose that we are about to give undue importance to a very small matter; and so far as our influence extends, hold out a temptation to some minds to examine it experimentally, whose present contempt of it would have prevented them otherwise from touching the unclean thing. But the examination, which, in the course of duty, we have been compelled to make of it, has led us to the conclusion that it is a matter of such import as the pulpit and the religious press may not, on any such ground, refrain from setting before hearers and readers—that by timely warning, on the grounds of scripture, historical, moral, and religious, they may be delivered from what already invites them with no faint voice. If what are called spiritual manifestations went nothing beyond Rochester-knockings, table-tappings, and such like "tom-foolery," we

might be able to see that it was perfectly consistent with our duty as clergymen and reviewers, to treat its pretensions with silent contempt. Or, if the dealers in it, and managers of the exhibition of model artists, the characterless men and women, who advertise their exhibitions for a fee, and the set of equally idle and vicious persons who alone they would then interest, we might suppose the case one which, like fortune-telling and the exhibition of model artists, were fit only for the interference of the District attorney and the chief of police. But this is not the state of the case. Such disreputable persons as these are, unquestionably, very prominent in the matter. But, besides them, is a large, and we fear, fast increasing number of others who are honest in their doings and upright in their intent; persons of the very highest repute for morals, information, and sagacity; not easily deceived, and far above the suspicion of deceit, who are enrolled among the believers and doers of the Modern Spiritualism. Grave senators have stepped from the halls of legislation, and erudite judges come down from the judgment seat to dabble in the dreadful intercourse with spirits; and it is even said, (and that not on Judge Edmond's authority alone,) that the highest rank of our hierarchy is not unrepresented among them either as an operator in the phenomena, or as a believer of their divine origin. It is impossible for us or for any, knowing this state of things, any longer to decline looking at the matter, excusing ourselves on the ground of its essential meanness. It is a very grave matter whether it be a delusion or whether it be a fact; a point which we hope will be made sufficiently clear, in the progress of our article.

In the outset, however, we are bound in fairness to say, that we have not personally witnessed any of these manifestations. Holding them, as upon our stand point, we are compelled to hold them to be the work of the devil—nothing short of cases of demonic possession—we could not voluntarily witness them unless some duty called us where they were without making ourselves partakers of the sin of them. If we had, or could have, any doubt about the things themselves, or about the cause of them, we admit that we would be bound to subject them to experiment before forming our opinion, and uttering our condemnation. But we take the verity of the facts upon the evidence of the parties. We judge their work on their own statement of it. Our readers, who do not believe the "fact," are the only ones (if any) who are entitled to call our fairness in question. Not the Spiritualists themselves; for we are at issue with them, simply as to the cause of the phenomena, not as to their reality. They who have been wont to despise Spiritualism as a thing too contemptible for notice may quarrel with us unless we make out a case of supernatural action. Not the Spiritualists; for therein we are unwillingly compelled to agree with them. Only while they maintain that the work is of God, we hold it to be of the devil. Now under this agreement as to the fact, there is no longer any necessity for investigations of it, nor could any number of witnesses of the phenomena alter our conclusion as to their origin. The spirits would assure us that they are messengers of God. Upon these declarations the Spiritualists rely. They have, besides, nothing to rely upon, except their own internal persuasion of the truthfulness of the evidence. We could obtain no other evidence, and are incapable of conviction on the other ground—for our persuasion of the truth and finality of revelation makes the internal persuasion of the Spiritualists an impossibility for us. We hope to do something to make it equally impossible for others.

Nor can our readers charge us with too great readiness in admitting our belief of the reality of the alleged facts, and of their supernatural origin in the face of such evidence as establishes these facts, unless upon the ground either of their present impossibility, or an antecedent improbability so strong as to make the admission—philosophical—or, admitting the facts—the presentation of a theory of physical causes sufficient to account for the phenomena. While spiritualism pretended to nothing beyond table-tappings, and the like, material agencies might be pleaded with some show of reason; and whether we agreed with Professor Faraday and others in their reasonings and conclusions about them or not we might be held unphilosophical to admit the supernatural character of the phenomena. But the case becomes very different when it is alleged, and we find ourselves constrained to admit the truth of the allegation—that living persons do daily and hourly receive communications by writing, by voice, and by raps, or in any way, from beings announcing themselves to be the spirits of departed persons. In such a case it is impossible to suppose any material cause for the effect. A spiritual one is the only possible solution of the problem. And then the question is whether the spirits at work are good or bad spirits, which, moreover, is the point we propose to examine.

Here, moreover, we consent to meet the Spiritualists on their own ground. All of them who are not wilful cheats attribute all the phenomena to spiritual agencies; and unless they all, without exception, can be convicted of insanity, they are undeniably right in so doing. If they were few in numbers, or their antecedents were generally such as not to make the idea of their insanity in the highest degree improbable, we might be disposed to adopt it and to dismiss the subject. But they are not few in numbers. Their name is unfortunately legion, like that of the devils, who have possessed them. Their previous lives and uniform reputation, their condi-

tion of health, their present occupations, and the confidence which they still command in the community, all go to forbid the idea of insanity, or indeed of any ordinary form of monomania. But even in the idea that the victims and practitioner of this iniquity are monomaniacs—that is, supposing them to be perfectly sane in every other subject but this, but in regard to it utterly demented, the question cannot be avoided; what is the cause of the particular monomania? Now nothing as yet known concerning the phenomena or the known causes of diseased mental action at all satisfies them, but the very theory of the Spiritualists themselves, which we are, however reluctantly compelled to admit, that they are both spiritual and supernatural.

And to that theory, which satisfactorily accounts for all the phenomena of "Spiritualism," we do not see that any sufficient objections can be alleged, on the ground of history, of reason, or of revelation. On the contrary, history and revelation both assure us that Modern Spiritualism errs only in calling itself "modern." Nor do the absolute determinations of sound reason present anything which contradicts the theory. On the contrary, as we shall see, much that supports it.

We allow, then, the facts. We allow their spiritual and supernatural character. And upon these grounds the sole question is: are they of God, or are they of the devil?

We plant ourselves, as we said, upon the basis of the Holy Word of God, as being the true and final revelation of himself to man. Unless the bible be not only the truth, but the whole truth of God; if there be any truth not contained in it which it is either necessary or useful for man to know for his salvation; if there remain anything which God purposes to make the subject of a revelation, whether the same be or be not necessary as a part of the knowledge whereby men are to be saved; so that the scriptures we have—admitted to be His Word—leave us any ground to believe that they are final; our conclusion, that these spiritual manifestations are the work of the devil cannot be proved. Indeed, then they would cease to be at all important, however interesting they might be to the mere psychologist. But only then. Because they do pretend to teach us something important as bearing upon the question and the character of the future state, above and beyond what is revealed in the Holy Word. At the same time they admit the truth of Scripture, as a revelation from God, but deny its finality. Grant that the Spiritualists are very bad theologians. So is the devil; but no one pretends that he is crazy. The evil one also denies the finality of revelation. From the scene in Eden to that upon the Temple and the Mount, in temptations, down to the present day, that has always been the devil's argument. This it is which gives Spiritualism a character of importance, which would not otherwise belong to it. Except for the doctrine of the finality of revelation, infidelity may, by the help of the evil one, establish any denial of the faith upon the same basis as the bible itself, for aught that human reason is able to determine concerning its utterances or its proofs. Superstition may add any figments of any character to the divine declarations, and the devil may work lying wonders to authenticate them, so as to deceive, if it were possible, the very elect. He may, and we think does, work such wonders now. But, standing upon the basis of the truth and the finality together, of God's word, it is our own fault if we be deceived. Not otherwise, for in such a case we should be left without the necessary protections of human infirmity; and that cannot be true except we deny the truth, the mercy, and the goodness of God.

Demonic possession must be allowed to be a possible occurrence at any time, and under any circumstances of the world, so long as there remain upon it considerable numbers of men who are not the subjects of the kingdom of Christ. The most that can be concluded from the failure of history, for a series of ages, to record cases of it, is only as to its probability during those periods. Moreover, (except in such instances as the present, or others which have come down to us) we are to observe, that as the matter is ordinarily confined to individual affections, its occurrence does not enter into the scope of general history; so that the silence of authentic records, during any period, however protracted, does not amount even to an adverse probability. Infidelity, however, does not hesitate to deny the possibility of such a thing now or at any time; and they, who in spite of the evidence, deny the reality of the facts of Modern Spiritualism, regarding the whole as a mere delusion of a few monomaniacs, avow the same belief. We must therefore spend a moment upon it and be taught of Scripture in regard to it. We shall refer to only one case—that of the Demoniae of Gadara, recorded Matthew viii, Mark v, and Luke viii.

Let it be noted, that we are now arguing against the infidel allegation of the impossibility of demonic possession at any time, not so much to convince infidels of their error, as to satisfy objectors to the present possibility of the same thing. Here was a case in which the devils which had entered into human beings were commanded by the Lord to come out of them, and permitted, on their own prayer, to enter into a herd of swine. Infidelity, denying the possibility of such a thing at any time is logically compelled to deny the truth of the whole history. Because, even if the men were only crazy, it cannot be pretended that upon their being cured the swine were afflicted with the malady from which the men were delivered. Swine and all other animals except the

human animal, not having the faculty of reason, are incapable of mania in any form, it being a disease of the reasoning faculty. Nor, of course, can it be maintained, that independent of any domestic possession of the swine, a power was miraculously exerted upon them, by their animal instincts were so perverted, that they ran down the steep hill into the sea and were drowned; since that would impeach the evangelists of the gross inaccuracy of statement, or else our Lord himself of a trick, with purpose to deceive. He expressly gave the devils permission to enter into the swine; and the evangelists tell us expressly that they did so. Nor again, except on grounds which go to the falsity of the history itself, can it be pretended, that what is in this case called the devils is only an evil influence or principle, an obstinately perverse and vicious disposition. Our Lord addressed not the men but the devils, who spake by the men. He addressed them as persons—that is, as thinking, willing, responsible intelligences.

Now passing by—only for want of time to notice them—many other cases in Holy Scripture as well as abundantly authenticated ones from profane history—the case of Saul, of Job, of the Witch of Endor, and the appearance of the prophet Samuel—the necromantic arts of the Egyptians, the ravings of the Pythones upon the tripod, and the whole more modern history of witchcraft—we suppose that these things are clear.

1. The devil is a real person; not a mere influence or principle or disposition in a person; and that he has the same powers as being attached to all persons of thinking, willing, speaking, acting locomotion, &c., &c.

2. He is a spiritual person; therefore, one who can act without being seen; that he can act upon our bodies, and affect our spirits in ways, that however inexplicable to us, are none the less certainly true, because we do not understand the mode of his operation.

3. It is historically proved that he has done so; this narrative being only one of many to the same effect.

4. The character of such acts of the devil is different from the symptoms and phenomena of merely diseased or destroyed intellect. The victims of demonic possession are both more and less than crazy persons. They are impelled to act, not simply by the erroneous processes of their own minds, and the depravity of their own wills, but by the force of a mind and will, which are not their will at all, which seizes upon their consciousness, causing them to say and do things, not of themselves; things that do not always impress their memories, or involve any other faculty of their minds; so that while they are fully in the extremity of demonic possession, they may be able to use their mental faculties (as crazy persons are not) on all matters that do not touch the purpose of the devil in possessing them so clearly and promptly as others not so affected.

Let us apply these data to the question before us. The main facts of Modern Spiritualism are certified on the evidence, not only of the actors in the business, who are called "mediums," but also of most credible persons who have been led by curiosity or a purpose of scientific investigation to witness them. Tables and other heavy articles of furniture have been moved without the application of any physical force at all adequate to produce the effect. Certain peculiar sounds are heard at times and places, when and where human or material agency in the production of them is, if not clearly impossible, yet in which the highest degree improbable, and in which action of electricity or any other known material force does by no means adequately account for the phenomena. Add to which, in divers ways, by audible voices, by writing, and by a system of telegraphic signs, spirits announcing themselves by name, as the departed human beings have made to the mediums, and through them, to other living persons, communications, disclosing their own condition and occupation, and that of others, in the unseen world, and making revelations in regard to it, not only beyond, but different from, what is declared concerning it in the Scriptures, and announcing certain things to be believed, as of God, and certain things to be done as unto God, which are not so commanded and taught in the bible; which things, though the mediums pretend that they are consistent with the gospel, (that is such of them as are now or have heretofore been persons of repute) are yet directly and irreconcilably hostile thereto.

Of course, therefore, there is a reason for these facts, a cause for these effects; seeing that nothing can be without a cause of being. If natural causes, by which we mean causes referable to any category of normal, material or spiritual agencies employed in the material or moral government of the universe, are entirely insufficient to account for the effects, we are justified in regarding them as supernatural and spiritual. This cause, then, is either God or the devil. It cannot be God; because if it be, then the bible is not His holy word, and we have no revelation of the Divine Will at all, which it is impossible to believe; or else the revelation we have is not final, and thus Christianity is at once disproved, which it is also impossible to believe. The bible is God's word, and it is His final revelation. Therefore "Spiritualism" is not of God. Therefore it is of the devil.

But let us fortify that inevitable conclusion by other considerations:

1. It is objected that it is a thing incredible, as inconsistent with any rational view of the goodness of God, that he would ever permit the devil to exercise such a power, as is here shown to the subversion of any

men's minds on the cardinal points of the truth and finality of His own holy word. Let us then appeal to the bible itself. These spiritual manifestations (as we have said) are no new things, now for the first time heard of. They are as old as the days of Saul, of Moses, of Job, and of the garden of Eden. Why God has permitted them, we may be altogether unable to determine. Nor is it now the question. It is only as to the fact, whether He has or has not ever permitted them before now. And if the fact of such permission be made out, the "onus" is on the deniers to show affirmatively, that the present condition of the world is such as to make the idea of a present permission of diabolic possession inadmissible. They must establish, affirmatively, such a difference between the present and the old state of the world, in favor of the present, on the score of virtue, as will entirely exclude the idea of God's love, exercising discipline after this dreadful fashion in the present day. Nor can they find any basis for such a conclusion, in our knowledge, our civilization, or our virtue. They will not find it in the amazing impulse of the spirit of covetousness, which is idolatry, communicated by the recent discoveries of the auriferous fields of California and Australia. They will not find it in the magnificent developments of Modern Science that have brought the matter and the mind of the ends of the earth together. They will not find it in the wide spread extravagance and luxury of modern wealth; that, from its very nature, fosters in man, more than anything else, the devil of selfishness and pride. They will not find it in the family, where the discipline of humanity is to set aside, as that now there is no such thing as youth, nor even a step between infancy and manhood. They will not find it in the institutions of the State; where, practically, everything tends to sink the idea of individual responsibility before God into the aggregation of collective irresponsibility to anything but the self-will of an autocrat, a majority, or a mob. They will not find it in the Church, where brother contends with brother, and bishop wrangles against bishop, not in the spirit of love, but in the spirit of party. Where then are they to look for it or how can they avoid the conviction—that for wise purposes, wise and good purposes, because His purposes—God has, in these days, permitted the devil to resume the exercise of power long in abeyance—or that the evil one himself, in his deep but malicious wisdom, discovers in our days the policy of certain operations, which for long ages he is supposed to have suspended.

Nor is it necessary, or to be expected, that we should find the present manifestations of diabolic possession precisely analogous to form to the ancient instances. The only question is, whether, in any previous age of the world, the Almighty has permitted the devil not only to walk to and fro upon the earth, seeking whom he may devour, but also to affect the bodies and minds of men—the whole complex humanity—in any more direct and palpable way than by instilling evil desires, and strewn men's paths with temptations and opportunities for the gratification of the fallen nature. Admitting the truth of the sacred volume, the fact that God has done so aforesaid is not an open question.

Take the case of Job; here we have the devil empowered by God to try a good man by the sudden and complete loss of property and children; and, he it remarked, using as his instruments in the destruction of man whose minds he influenced to that end, and also exercising control of some kind over the elements of nature; "the fire from heaven" and the "winds" making them, too, contribute their help to the general ruin. Furthermore, the devil smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown." Now, whether these sore boils were or were not any of the varieties of the ordinary eruptions tumor, so called, or some other eruption unknown before or after to pathology, it is perfectly plain that they were not the results of any morbid action. Job had not a disease of any kind—the result of accident or exposure, or of any interruption of the healthy condition and functions of his body. His affliction was purely supernatural—the work of the devil, by God's special permission. And in that work, the devil, himself a spiritual person, being unseen, made himself felt, in affecting the matter of Job's body, under circumstances the most unfavorable for the production of it, of any diseased or morbid action. The purpose of the Almighty, in granting such a power in this case to the devil, is aside from our present topic. The knowledge which we have on that point from the Sacred Word no more accounts for Job's condition on natural grounds than our ignorance of the Divine purpose in the modern demonic possessions concludes us against the idea of their being supernatural. Rather, the force of the argument is all the other way; our ignorance of the means whereby these things are done going to no other end than to strengthen our convictions of their supernaturalness. Job's case is one in which the devil, having received permission from God, did supernaturally affect matter and control the elements of nature. It proves, therefore, two things of importance in our present inquiry: First, that God, for wise ends of His own has heretofore permitted such things to be done by the devil, and so throws upon those who object to our view, the onus of proving, affirmatively, such a present condition of the world and men in it as makes the supposition of such a permission now, if not impossible, at the least utterly improbable. Secondly, it proves that a spiritual person has been permitted by God to affect, not only the spiritual nature of man, but his material part,

independently thereof; and also to control, handle, and use other matter—the "fire from heaven" and the "wind from the wilderness." If he can do such things as we have recorded with the lightning and the winds, it must be allowed that he can move tables, where nothing is to be overcome but the simple law of inertia of matter. And, if he could instantly produce upon the whole matter of Job's body "sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown," he certainly can cause a living hand to seize and hold a pen, and involuntarily write words, with which the mind of his instrument has no connection. Nor will it be a sufficient answer to reply that table-tappings and knockings, and writings with a pen are things beneath the dignity of such an operator. How do we know? Any incendiary can set fire to a man's house. Any villan can hire a set of braves and desperadoes to set upon innocent people and kill them. Boils, however painful, are generally regarded as very contemptible forms of disease—very small matters. Yet we find all these things indicative to our reason of somewhat small ingenuity and power of invention in the devil, used in the case of Job. No means is contemptible in any hands which suffices for its end. And the employment for any end of means of any kind beyond what is sufficient thereto is an argument, not so much of the wisdom of the operator, and the dignity of the operation, as of the contrary. We have dwelt at this length upon the case of Job, because it answers completely all the points of the objections we have anticipated, and established beyond question, our position that God has heretofore permitted the devil to act in the way we suppose him now to be acting in the case of "Modern Spiritualism."

To be concluded in our next.

Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

VISITATION OF THE ARCHDEACON OF MIDDLESEX.—The Archdeacon of Middlesex has been engaged during this week in the visitation of the Clergy of his Archdeaconry at St. Paul's Church, Covent-garden. The sermon preceding the Charge was dispensed with, in consequence of the course pursued by the Bishop. The Charge consisted of an essay on preaching, and on the errors by which it is rendered ineffective. The first general error was want of faith. Preaching was disparaged, and ironical praise bestowed on sordid sermons. The next error was that of overlooking certain qualifications which the work of preaching required. Amongst these were command of language and readiness of expression. Another qualification for a clergyman to be entrusted with the sacred office of the pulpit, and to some extent of physical science, and still more of mental science, and in particular of the philosophy of morals, for which the study of the works of Bishop Butler would be found most valuable, not so the study of Aristotle and Epicurus, whose system made pronounce the only motive of virtue, without giving a proper place for pity and benevolence. Some acquaintance with economic science was likewise valuable to the preacher. Touching the composition of sermons, his preparation was to be deprecated as well as his unappropriateness of subject, and antiquated phraseology. Another fatal error in preaching was that of underrating the capacity of the people. The sole object of all preaching was edification. The Clergy of this Archdeaconry occupied a conspicuous position. They had the opportunity of addressing the individuals most remarkable for wealth, rank, talent, and influence in the kingdom. A majority of the Legislature were their parishioners. The Church of the members and friends of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel on Tuesday week, about 100 Clergymen and laymen were present, among them the Bishops of London, Lichfield, and Glasgow. The last meeting of the season will take place on Tuesday, June 19.

ST. PAUL'S, KNIGHTSBRIDGE.—On Thursday week the Bishop of London met the Hon. and Rev. E. Liddell and Mr. Westcott, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, for the purpose of inspecting the floral decorations objected to by the latter. After a careful examination his Lordship expressed his approval of them.

CONSECRATION.—By the Bishop of Winchester, the new Church at Ringwood, rebuilt on the site of the old one, at an expense of £,650,000, the ceremony of being solemnly dedicated by the Bishop of King's College, Cambridge, the patrons of the living, at a cost of about \$500.

FOUNDATION STONE LAID.—Of a new district Church in Prince's-street, to be dedicated to St. Andrew, providing accommodation for about 800 persons. The first incumbent will be the Rev. A. S. Canney, late Curate of All Saints, Gordon-square.

SERVICE FOR WORKING MEN.—Notice of an early service, at half-past six, on Trinity Sunday, consisting of the Litany and a sermon, followed by the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, specially for those who "dislike coming to Church at a later hour of the day, in their working dress," has been given at St. Paul's, Brighton.

PUBLIC BAPTISMS OF INFANTS.—ST. CLEMENT DUNES.—On Whit Sunday, during evening service, the Rev. J. J. Clement, the newly inducted Rector of St. Clement Dunes, in the Strand, administered public baptism to ninety-three children of different ages without the fee usually paid for the performance of that essential and solemn rite. It is much to be lamented that so many children of the poor are thus baptised, determined that the non-payment of such fee should form no impediment to their being received into the Church. On this occasion a most interesting scene took place during the ceremony being witnessed by large numbers of the children of the several Sunday and other

schools of the parish, two of which Sunday schools have been formed within the last few since the present Rector has been appointed.

TESTIMONIALS.—Testimonials of affection and esteem have been presented to the Rev. T. Coney, Junr., by the Churchwardens and parishioners of Wick and Abson, on his appointment as Assistant-Chaplain to Her Majesty's forces in the East; to the Rev. W. H. Lewis, by the inhabitants of Bala, on his appointment to the Curacy of Denbigh; to the Rev. H. M. Mosse, by the inhabitants of Brainsford, on his removal to the Rectory of Dunstable. We refer to the teachers and congregation of St. Paul's Sunday Schools and Church, Bury, on his leaving; to the Rev. E. Browning, by the parishioners of Ellingham, on his leaving.

COLONIAL.

FLOATING CHAPEL FOR SEAMEN.—In about ten days hence the spiritual wants of the many seamen frequenting this port will be supplied by the opening (at Mr. Dunhill's wharf, below the inclined plane) of a Bethel ship which has been generously placed at the disposal of the Revd. Mr. Carden by a friend to the church. The cost of fitting the vessel for the purpose alluded to has been recently borne effectively by the subscription of a portion thereof has been already contributed, the reverend gentleman licensed to the charge appeals to the Christian public for aid in this new and long required place of worship. When it is considered that this appeal is made in behalf of the spiritual welfare of those who are now without convenient means of Sabbath observance and of receiving religious instruction, we feel confident that the charity of a community whose temporal welfare only, is mainly dependent upon the mariner, will not be sought in vain.

Contributions may be addressed to the *Quebec Mercury*.

UNITED STATES.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, ALBANY.—The services of this Church, which had been suspended for a fortnight, owing to the decorations which have recently been effected, are now without convenient means of Sabbath observance and of receiving religious instruction, we feel confident that the charity of a community whose temporal welfare only, is mainly dependent upon the mariner, will not be sought in vain.

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Miscellaneous.

SUBSCRIBERS, AND THOSE WHO OUGHT TO BE SUBSCRIBERS FOR A RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPER.—We intimated last week that we had, in years past, increased our subscription list by our personal solicitations. While engaged in this work we were brought in contact with all sorts of Churchmen, and had occasion to hear numerous opinions respecting the various papers published in the Episcopal Church. In some respects, the employment was a very good school for us, and we were enabled to give our readers the benefit of our experience. Perhaps some one will find himself described and see the propriety of modifying his judgment. We shall speak of persons as they happen to come into our mind, without observing any particular order; or pretending that the letters selected are the true initials of the persons indicated.

Mr. A. is a wealthy farmer—himself and wife communicants—has a large family, takes two Eastern "dollar weeklies" of the most trustworthy kind, and the *Lady's Book*; pays \$12 a year towards the support of his clergyman; but complains that his children are not serious, and seems to take no interest in Church matters. He is himself well posted up in regard to all the "sad accidents" and "horrible murders" of the day, but surprisingly ignorant of everything in the Church beyond his own parish; cannot be persuaded to take a religious paper, and don't understand why they cannot be afforded as cheap as other papers.

Mr. B. takes a religious paper, and along with it some four or five other papers. He seldom looks into the former, unless his attention is drawn by others to some controversy in it.

army. The cases of cholera which have been admitted during the week have been of a milder character, and the mortality from that disease has been much less; but it has extended to the Sardinian Contingent, to the men of the Land Transport Corps, and to the shipping in the harbour of Balaklava; and from these sources the admissions and deaths in the general hospital there have been considerably increased; no fewer than 18 out of the 25 casualties which have occurred there having taken place among these extra patients. In future I will have the extra patients excluded from the weekly staff and shown separately; but, as cannot get fresh returns made out in time for the post on the present occasion, I have deducted the numbers from the general return.

The admissions to strength during the present week, and during the 24th and 25th of May, were 4.53 and 4.47 respectively. Fevers have been less numerous during the week, but diarrhoea has been slightly on the increase; and it has been noticed that many convalescents from fever have been seized, and some of these have run on to cholera and terminated fatally.

In the Artillery cholera is abating, and many of the cases of fever under treatment are of a milder character, and in the Left Attack all are described as doing well.

The cavalry division fever has been the prevalent complaint, and four casualties have occurred—two from fever, one from disease of the liver, and one from cholera, in a man of the 10th Hussars, who died after an illness of eleven hours.

The 1st Royal Dragoons have only two slight cases of typhoid under treatment in the hospital, and the regiment has been remarkably healthy for some time past.

1st Division.—The Highland Brigade embarked for service at Kertch on the 24th inst., leaving 198 behind sick, all of whom are improving daily.

In the Brigade of Guards, eight cases of cholera have occurred, four of which have had a fatal termination, and there has been a tendency to bowel complaint particularly among the convalescents from fever.

In the Second Division a marked improvement has taken place in the health of the men during the week. No admission from cholera has been reported for 48 hours, and of the sixteen remaining under treatment all have a fair chance of recovery.

In the Third Division there has been an increase of mortality, arising chiefly from cholera. Fever cases appear on the decline, but there are still many remaining under treatment, and the diarrhoeal cases, which have been rather on the increase during the week.

The surgeon of the 44th regiment objects to the summer clothing, on account of its being of a linen texture, and thinks woollen would have been better; but it appears to be approved of by the majority of the regimental medical officers of the division, as well as by the medical staff.

In the Fourth Division cholera has declined considerably. Last week the deaths from that disease, were 48, this week 14. In the 17th regiment fever prevails to a greater extent than in any other corps in the division.

In the Light Division, cholera is also on the increase, and the cases that present themselves are of a milder character.

I have, &c. J. HALL, Inspector-General of Hospitals, Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., Commanding-in-Chief.

Before Sebastopol, June 2. My Lord,—I have the honor to lay before your Lordship a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals containing a return of the admissions and deaths from cholera up to the 1st instant. The admissions from the divisions in front have become so few that there is some reason to feel confident that the cholera will subside among the troops before long; but it has not as yet been entirely eradicated, and still its existence in the army is a matter of the deepest regret, as well as of much anxiety.

I have, &c. RAGLAN.

Enclosure. Before Sebastopol, June 2. My Lord,—I have the honor to enclose a return of admissions and deaths from cholera from the 26th of May to the 1st of June inclusive, by which your Lordship will observe that the divisions in front, where the disease first made its appearance and spread most rapidly, have become healthier, and the complaint has attacked the Sardinian Contingent, the English and native drivers of the Land Transport Corps, and within the last 48 hours the brigade of Guards encamped on the heights near Balaklava. As yet the Cavalry Division has not been free from it, which is a remarkable circumstance, as it occupies a sheltered valley near Kadikoi.

In the Guards it was noticed that the attacks were confined to the newly-arrived recruits and to men who had been employed either on duty or fatigue in Balaclava.

Yesterday the admissions were fewer, and the cases that presented themselves of a milder character; and I hope the epidemic will pass off, as it appears to be doing in front for the present.

I have, &c. J. HALL, Inspector-General of Hospitals, Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., Commanding-in-Chief.

SEA-SNAKE'S ENGAGEMENT WITH RUSSIAN STEAMERS. Royal Albert, Straits of Kerch, June 2.

Sir,—In my letter of the 26th ult. No. 398, I had the pleasure of bringing under the notice of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the gallant, able, and successful way in which Lieut. Henry F. M'Killop had conducted Her Majesty's steam gun-boat under his command, on the day the allied forces obtained possession of the Straits of Kerch.

I have now to request you to lay before your Lordships the enclosed copy of a letter which I have received from Lieutenant M'Killop, reporting his proceedings on the day; and your Lordships will observe that he speaks in high terms of his officers and ship's company, and particularly of Mr. Nathaniel B. Herbert, Second-Master, and Mr. Sydney E. Wright, Assistant-Paymaster in charge.

I am, &c. EDMUND LYONS, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief, The Secretary of the Admiralty, London.

[Enclosure reporting engagement.] H.M.S. Snake, off Yenikale, May 24.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that, in obedience to your signal granting me permission to intercept a Russian war steamer, I proceeded into Kertch Bay, exchanging shots with the batteries of Akchuburnay in passing.

I succeeded in cutting off the steamer and engaging her, but not until she had placed herself under the protection of the forts of Yenikale. After a sharp fire on both sides for three-quarters of an hour, I was fortunate in succeeding in setting her on fire with Lancaster shells, from which she blew up the crew with her own guns getting away. She had apparently soldiers on board. During this engagement the forts at Yenikale hulled the ship, and kept up a well-directed and continuous fire the whole time, which returned with apparent good effect with my heavy guns.

Three steamers also came down from the entrance to the Sea of Azoff, and opened fire on us with very long range guns, their shot frequently passing over us at about 4,000 yards. I continued to engage the batteries and steamers until the arrival of the ships sent up to my assistance, until recalled by signal from the Miranda.

The whole of the sailing vessels standing towards the sea of Azoff were intercepted and afterwards captured; two steamers, also intercepted in Kertch Bay, were blown up by their own crews, and a gunboat sunk.

In which the officers and crew performed their duties; being very short-handed, rendered working the guns for so many hours a work of great labor.

I beg to recommend for your favorable consideration Mr. N. B. Herbert (Second Master in charge), who wins much skill and conduct in the ship through the intricate and comparatively unknown passage, under the guns of Akchuburnay, and inside the shoal of Yenikale, without any accident.

I am equally indebted to Mr. Sydney E. Wright, Assistant-Paymaster, and one of our longest and meritorious services; for his assistance as a volunteer executive, who with Dr. Roche and Mr. George Wilson (senior engineer) manned and worked the 12-pounder howitzer, sinking a gunboat.

I have to say that no casualties occurred, and the Snake received but little damage,—one shot through the mizen rigging, carrying it away, and one through the hull at the water-line.

I am, &c. H. F. M'KILLOP, Lieut. and Comd. Rear-Admiral Sir E. Lyons, Bart. G.C.B.

OPERATIONS IN THE SEA OF AZOFF. Royal Albert, Straits of Kerch, June 2.

Sir,—I have the honor to transmit to you herewith copies of two letters that have been addressed to me by Captain Edmund M. Lyons, of the British Squadron, and of the proceedings of the allied steam squadrons under his orders during the first four days of their appearance in the Sea of Azoff.

In that short space of time the squadrons forced the enemy to run on shore, burn to the water's edge, and abandon their steamers, under the command of Rear-Admiral Wolff; they bombarded Arabat and blew up the powder magazine, and they destroyed 246 merchant vessels, which were employed in the conveyance of supplies to the Russian army in the Crimea.

It has been ascertained from the Custom house returns that the enemy on evacuating Kertch, on the 24th, destroyed 1,000,000 lbs. of corn and 500,000 lbs. of flour. The quantity taken together with that has been destroyed by the allied squadrons in the Sea of Azoff, comprises nearly four months' rations for an army of 100,000 men, and it seems that shortly before our arrival the enemy had commenced sending towards Sebastopol daily convoys of about 1,500 wagons, each containing half-a-ton weight of grain or flour.

Sir George Brown confidently expects that by the 7th instant, Yenikale will be in such a state of defence as fully to justify his leaving it in charge of the Ottoman troops, and he has agreed with the British and French forces to agree to proceed to the attack of Anapa and Souj-k Kaleb, in order to drive the enemy out of his last holds on the coast of Circassia.

I am, &c. E. LYONS, Rear-Admiral, To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

JOURNAL OF THE SIEGE. From the Times Correspondent. MAY 29.

It is now for the third time that I see the camp before, or rather about, Sebastopol. The impressions received each time form themselves in my mind in a different manner. At first the siege itself, which is perhaps not so marked for any one who has been there the whole time, and who passing by a gradual transition through the different phases may not have been struck so vividly by the distinctive character of each.

The opening of each of these periods is a time of hope. The first when the allied armies, flushed by the victory of the Alma, settled down before Sebastopol like eagles sure of their prey. The second, when sobered down by the hardships of the winter, they expected the renewal of the bombardment, and now the French ships, to destroy these vessels, as well as some lying about four miles off, and a store-house. All this was completed by dark. During the night the French and Turkish squadrons were chasing and destroying vessels in other directions.

At daylight of the 27th I weighed with the ships under my orders, accompanied by the four French steamers, and anchored off the town of Berdiansk, the Miranda in 15 feet, and the gunboats in proportion less water, in a position which effectually commanded the town and beach. Here we found, run on shore, and burnt to the water's edge and abandoned, the four steamers of which had escaped from Kertch, under the command of Rear-Admiral Wolff, whose flag was flying in the Molodtsoff. I landed the small-armed men and marines of the squadron, under Commander Lambert of the Curlew, accompanied by those of the French ships, with orders to destroy all shipping and to burn to the water's edge every vessel of property. This was done without molestation, although we had information that 800 Cossacks, with guns, were at Petroskoff, five miles off. Many vessels were destroyed, and corn stores to the estimated value of £50,000. An 8-inch 62-ton gun was also recovered from the wreck of one of the Russian steamers, and is now on board the Miranda.

Immediately the boats returned the squadrons weighed for Arabat; I at the same time detached the Swallow and Wrangler to Genitchi, to command the entrance to the Pruth Sea, and the Curlew to cruise between Kriativa Spit and Sand Island, and thus prevent vessels escaping us by getting up the Don.

On the morning of the 28th we arrived off Arabat, and engaged the fort (mounting 30 guns) for an hour, and then, as the smoke cleared, a shell blew up the enemy's magazine; the ships having been ordered to keep at short range, and being well handled, had only one casualty, the chief engineer of the Medina being slightly wounded by a splinter; the French senior officer's ship received two shots in the hull, but fortunately no one was hurt. The enemy must have lost many men from the precision with which the shells burst in his works, independently of that caused by the explosion.

The commanders of the vessels employed deserve to be treated as they should, and in a way which they have not received in any strong breeze and shallow water, without a single accident, and I may be permitted to say none were more distinguished than our gallant allies. The large garrison at Arabat rendering any attempt at landing out of the question, I now proceeded for Genitchi, parting with regret from Captain de Sedaigas and his squadron, who left at the same time for Kertch. I take this opportunity of mentioning the efficient, cordial, and hearty co-operation I received on every occasion from M. de Sedaigas and the ships under his orders, and my hope that it may again be my good fortune to have him for my colleague.

The allied squadrons had destroyed upwards of 100 vessels during the three days they have been in this sea, principally laden with provisions for the Russian army in the Crimea. Had we sent these vessels in as prizes, we should have lost much valuable time and not been able to effect so many captures. The active and zealous way in which the officers and ships' companies perform their duties, and the obedient manner in which they suffer this pecuniary loss for the benefit of the service, will, I trust, meet with your approbation.

I have, &c. E. M. LYONS, Captain. OPERATIONS IN THE STRAITS OF KERCH. Royal Albert, Straits of Kerch, May 30.

Sir,—I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter that has been addressed to me by Captain Lyons, of the Miranda, recounting the measures he took for obliging the enemy to abandon his last hold in these Straits, and reporting his having entered the Sea of Azoff with the squadron I had placed under his orders.

I am, &c. EDMUND LYONS, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief, To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Her Majesty's Ship "Miranda," at anchor off Yenikale, May 25.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that, having yesterday afternoon taken under my orders the ship named in the margin, I, in pursuance of your orders, passed the Straits of

Kertch, anchored for the night just off of gunshot of the batteries of Yenikale. At 7 p.m. the enemy blew up the magazines and these batteries with a tremendous explosion.

At 4 o'clock this morning I sent Mr. George Williams, master of this ship, to find and buoy a channel through the Straits on the Yenikale side; and I desired Lieutenant Armistice in the Viper to follow as near as possible, and endeavour to pass the Straits and get into a position to threaten the retreat of the Russian garrison of the forts on the Chesna Spit side of the Strait, by commanding the neck of the spit; at the same time I sent Lieutenant Aynsley, in the Lynx, to pass round by the Taman Lake and to take up a position to command the rear of the Russian forts. This service was ably performed by these officers, and on their retaining the assigned positions, the enemy, as I had anticipated, exploded his magazines, abandoned his works, and made a precipitate retreat under the fire of the Viper's guns. Mr. Williams now returned, having found and buoyed a 16 feet channel, and I immediately weighed, and with the vessels under my orders, proceeded through the Straits of Yenikale; thus we became complete masters of the Sea of Azoff.

I have, &c. E. M. LYONS, Captain. Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart. G. C. B. Royal Albert, Straits, June 2.

Sir,—In my letter, No. 388, of the 25th ult., I stated that we had captured 50 of the enemy's guns. It now appears that more than 100 guns had fallen into our hands in the different sea defences, many of them of heavy calibre, and remarkably good cast. Those which may not be required for the sea defences which the allied armies are now constructing, will be shipped and sent to England and France.

It has been ascertained from the Custom house returns that the enemy on evacuating Kertch, on the 24th, destroyed 1,000,000 lbs. of corn and 500,000 lbs. of flour. The quantity taken together with that has been destroyed by the allied squadrons in the Sea of Azoff, comprises nearly four months' rations for an army of 100,000 men, and it seems that shortly before our arrival the enemy had commenced sending towards Sebastopol daily convoys of about 1,500 wagons, each containing half-a-ton weight of grain or flour.

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JUNE 8.—Yesterday evening (the 7th) we took possession of 62 guns in the captured redoubts. Thirteen officers were made prisoners. Our loss, which has not yet been accurately ascertained, is considerable, as might be expected from so great a result. Two works close to the Malakhoff Tower were taken on the 8th, with 63 guns. The slaughter was fearful.

JUNE 9th, 11 p. m.—The situation is the same as yesterday. All the demonstrations of the enemy against the conquered works have been fruitless. They have abandoned the so-called battery of the 21st May. They have also completely abandoned to us the right shore of Carcing Bay. The vessels in port have sought refuge in Artillery Bay, where our mortar boats can reach them. We are watching them attentively.

JUNE 10.—The combat of June 7 was more advantageous for us than I first announced to you. It has put into our hands 502 prisoners, 20 of whom are officers, and 73 pieces of ordnance.

JUNE 11.—We are strengthening ourselves in the new works. We have been able to fire with our Russian mortars at the ships, which have retreated further off than Artillery Bay. We are preparing new batteries.

THE LOSS OF THE ENGLISH ON THE 7th AND 8th amounted to non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates, killed, 112; wounded, 51; missing, 15.

FURTHER SUCCESS IN THE SEA OF AZOFF. STRAITS OF KERCH, JUNE 7.—Commander Sedaigas and Captain Lyons announce that the operations of the allied flotilla against Taganrog, Mariopol, and Gheisk, which took place on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of June, have been successful, and remarkably good cast. Those which may not be required for the sea defences which the allied armies are now constructing, will be shipped and sent to England and France.

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It is now for the third time that I see the camp before, or rather about, Sebastopol. The impressions received each time form themselves in my mind in a different manner. At first the siege itself, which is perhaps not so marked for any one who has been there the whole time, and who passing by a gradual transition through the different phases may not have been struck so vividly by the distinctive character of each.

The opening of each of these periods is a time of hope. The first when the allied armies, flushed by the victory of the Alma, settled down before Sebastopol like eagles sure of their prey. The second, when sobered down by the hardships of the winter, they expected the renewal of the bombardment, and now the French ships, to destroy these vessels, as well as some lying about four miles off, and a store-house. All this was completed by dark. During the night the French and Turkish squadrons were chasing and destroying vessels in other directions.

At daylight of the 27th I weighed with the ships under my orders, accompanied by the four French steamers, and anchored off the town of Berdiansk, the Miranda in 15 feet, and the gunboats in proportion less water, in a position which effectually commanded the town and beach. Here we found, run on shore, and burnt to the water's edge and abandoned, the four steamers of which had escaped from Kertch, under the command of Rear-Admiral Wolff, whose flag was flying in the Molodtsoff. I landed the small-armed men and marines of the squadron, under Commander Lambert of the Curlew, accompanied by those of the French ships, with orders to destroy all shipping and to burn to the water's edge every vessel of property. This was done without molestation, although we had information that 800 Cossacks, with guns, were at Petroskoff, five miles off. Many vessels were destroyed, and corn stores to the estimated value of £50,000. An 8-inch 62-ton gun was also recovered from the wreck of one of the Russian steamers, and is now on board the Miranda.

Immediately the boats returned the squadrons weighed for Arabat; I at the same time detached the Swallow and Wrangler to Genitchi, to command the entrance to the Pruth Sea, and the Curlew to cruise between Kriativa Spit and Sand Island, and thus prevent vessels escaping us by getting up the Don.

On the morning of the 28th we arrived off Arabat, and engaged the fort (mounting 30 guns) for an hour, and then, as the smoke cleared, a shell blew up the enemy's magazine; the ships having been ordered to keep at short range, and being well handled, had only one casualty, the chief engineer of the Medina being slightly wounded by a splinter; the French senior officer's ship received two shots in the hull, but fortunately no one was hurt. The enemy must have lost many men from the precision with which the shells burst in his works, independently of that caused by the explosion.

The commanders of the vessels employed deserve to be treated as they should, and in a way which they have not received in any strong breeze and shallow water, without a single accident, and I may be permitted to say none were more distinguished than our gallant allies. The large garrison at Arabat rendering any attempt at landing out of the question, I now proceeded for Genitchi, parting with regret from Captain de Sedaigas and his squadron, who left at the same time for Kertch. I take this opportunity of mentioning the efficient, cordial, and hearty co-operation I received on every occasion from M. de Sedaigas and the ships under his orders, and my hope that it may again be my good fortune to have him for my colleague.

The allied squadrons had destroyed upwards of 100 vessels during the three days they have been in this sea, principally laden with provisions for the Russian army in the Crimea. Had we sent these vessels in as prizes, we should have lost much valuable time and not been able to effect so many captures. The active and zealous way in which the officers and ships' companies perform their duties, and the obedient manner in which they suffer this pecuniary loss for the benefit of the service, will, I trust, meet with your approbation.

I have, &c. E. M. LYONS, Captain. OPERATIONS IN THE STRAITS OF KERCH. Royal Albert, Straits of Kerch, May 30.

Sir,—I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter that has been addressed to me by Captain Lyons, of the Miranda, recounting the measures he took for obliging the enemy to abandon his last hold in these Straits, and reporting his having entered the Sea of Azoff with the squadron I had placed under his orders.

I am, &c. EDMUND LYONS, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief, To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Her Majesty's Ship "Miranda," at anchor off Yenikale, May 25.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that, having yesterday afternoon taken under my orders the ship named in the margin, I, in pursuance of your orders, passed the Straits of

Kertch, anchored for the night just off of gunshot of the batteries of Yenikale. At 7 p.m. the enemy blew up the magazines and these batteries with a tremendous explosion. At 4 o'clock this morning I sent Mr. George Williams, master of this ship, to find and buoy a channel through the Straits on the Yenikale side; and I desired Lieutenant Armistice in the Viper to follow as near as possible, and endeavour to pass the Straits and get into a position to threaten the retreat of the Russian garrison of the forts on the Chesna Spit side of the Strait, by commanding the neck of the spit; at the same time I sent Lieutenant Aynsley, in the Lynx, to pass round by the Taman Lake and to take up a position to command the rear of the Russian forts. This service was ably performed by these officers, and on their retaining the assigned positions, the enemy, as I had anticipated, exploded his magazines, abandoned his works, and made a precipitate retreat under the fire of the Viper's guns. Mr. Williams now returned, having found and buoyed a 16 feet channel, and I immediately weighed, and with the vessels under my orders, proceeded through the Straits of Yenikale; thus we became complete masters of the Sea of Azoff.

I have, &c. E. M. LYONS, Captain. Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart. G. C. B. Royal Albert, Straits, June 2.

Sir,—In my letter, No. 388, of the 25th ult., I stated that we had captured 50 of the enemy's guns. It now appears that more than 100 guns had fallen into our hands in the different sea defences, many of them of heavy calibre, and remarkably good cast. Those which may not be required for the sea defences which the allied armies are now constructing, will be shipped and sent to England and France.

It has been ascertained from the Custom house returns that the enemy on evacuating Kertch, on the 24th, destroyed 1,000,000 lbs. of corn and 500,000 lbs. of flour. The quantity taken together with that has been destroyed by the allied squadrons in the Sea of Azoff, comprises nearly four months' rations for an army of 100,000 men, and it seems that shortly before our arrival the enemy had commenced sending towards Sebastopol daily convoys of about 1,500 wagons, each containing half-a-ton weight of grain or flour.

Sir George Brown confidently expects that by the 7th instant, Yenikale will be in such a state of defence as fully to justify his leaving it in charge of the Ottoman troops, and he has agreed with the British and French forces to agree to proceed to the attack of Anapa and Souj-k Kaleb, in order to drive the enemy out of his last holds on the coast of Circassia.

I am, &c. E. LYONS, Rear-Admiral, To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

JOURNAL OF THE SIEGE. From the Times Correspondent. MAY 29.

