

Mary was speaking kindly, standing over him chafing his temple, and wildly sobbing. Then the scene closed in again, so far as I was concerned, for I fainted, and was carried insensible to bed. In truth I had been weak and ill for some days past, and was therefore not so well able as usual to bear up against such a sudden revulsion of feeling.

I think I only need add, by way of postscriptum, that the Hon. Mrs Toulmin is still a permanent guest at Ashe Priory; that Captain Toulmin who was treated much better than he deserved, is an officer in the service of Austria; that Mary is, if possible, a more admirable person than ever; that her two sons are fine young men, who will I doubt not, some of these days, do honour to their name, but, there can be little doubt in some degree, till the introduction of fresh blood, partially decaying stock of the Herberts; that Clara is the happy and honoured wife of the rector—again a mother, and quite as much mistress of Ashe Priory as ever she was; that Mrs Selwyn has been of necessity relegated upon a sufficient income, to Beach Villa; and, finally, that I have been for a long time settled in London, and that my name, when I left Ashe Priory, ceased to be Redburn.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

The Russian army is not intelligent. Beneath the European costume in which it is tricked out, it still betrays its origin. Look at it: it presents so heavy and singular an appearance, that the least practised eye immediately recognises the distinguished peasant, the savage tanned but yesterday, hardly knowing how to march, and studying, to the best of his power his part of soldier, for which he was not intended. It is only redoubtable by its masses, which, however, can be very efficaciously acted on by grape-shot, as we have seen, at Austerlitz, Friedland, and other places. The Russian soldier is not easily shaken. He does not possess that cool energy and contempt of danger, not that powerful reasoning of true courage, which characterises the French army, and makes heroes of men: he is merely a machine of war, which never reasons, and is cumbersome to move. His hopes, moreover, foster in him the idea that he is invincible, and that the bullet or the cannon-ball destined to kill him, will reach him quite as well from behind as from before: but that, nevertheless, if he turns his back to the enemy, and is spared by death, he will be beaten with the stick and with the knout.

SCRAPS.

SMART YOUNG LADY.—At a party a few evenings since as a handsome but rather verdant young gentleman named Frost was eating an apple in a quiet corner by himself, a young lady came up and gaily asked him "why he did not share with her?" He good-naturedly turned the side of the apple which was not bitten towards her saying:—"Here take it if you wish." "No I thank you," she exclaimed, looking at him archly, "I would rather have one that is not frost bitten!" and ran off to join the company, leaving poor Frost with a thaw in his heart.

CONS FOR CONSIDERATION.—Why is a person asking questions the strangest of all individuals? Because he's the querist.—Why is a spendthrift like a restive horse? Because he plunges into difficulties and gets in arrears.—What is the difference between a big man and a little man? One is tall fellow and the other not at all.—Why are lawyers like wild beasts? Because they're savage without they're fed.

AN EVIL LIVER.—They say that Nicholas is labouring under a liver affection—the only sort of affection of which his nature is capable. It appears therefore that the Czar is troubled with his; and there can be no doubt that he complains bitterly of Gaul.

When Peter the Great was taken into Westminster Hall, he inquired who those busy people in black gowns and wigs were. He was answered that they were lawyers. "Lawyers!" said he, with a face of astonishment; "why, I have but two in my whole dominions, and I believe I shall hang one of them the moment I get home!"

A BAD LABEL.—Tom bought a gallon of gin to take home and by way of a label, wrote his name upon a card—which happened to be the seven of clubs—and tied it to the handle.—A friend, coming along and observing the jug, quietly remarked, "That's an awful careless way to leave that liquor!" "Why?" said Tom, "Because somebody might come along with the sixth spot, and take it!"

There is a principle of disunion in unequal connexions. Active beneficence is a virtue of easier practice than forbearance after having conferred, or than thankfulness after having received a benefit. I know not, indeed, whether it be a greater and more difficult exercise of magnanimity, for the one party to act as if he had forgotten, or for the other as if he constantly remembered the obligation.

PARSON OUTWITTED.—A parson once asked an honest Quaker, where his religion was before Gen. Fox's? "Where thine was," said the Quaker, "before Harry Tudor's time—Now thou hast been free with me," added the Quaker: "pray let me ask thee a question.—Where was Jacob going when he was turned of ten years of age? canst thou tell that?" "No nor you either, I believe." "Yes, I can," replied the Quaker, "he was going into his eleventh year, was he not?"

INCIDENTS OF THE WAR.

From Wilmer and Smith's European Times.
SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

Oct. 3.—Since we landed in the Crimea as many have died of cholera as perished on the Alma. We lost 380 men killed in the action out of the 2000 hors de combat. The dead from cholera now amount to nearly as many.—We hear strange things from the deserters.—They say that 30 Russian ladies went out of Sebastopol to see the battle of the Alma as though they were going to a play or a picnic. They were quite assured of the success of the Russian troops, and great were their alarm and dismay when they found themselves obliged to leave the telegraph house on the hill and to fly for their lives in their carriages. Had the cavalry done anything at all, we might have tested the truth of this strange story. There is no doubt but that our enemies were perfectly sure of the victory; their dejection now is as great as their exultation was before.

It appears that 54 out of our 60 guns were engaged in the action of the Alma, and that we have fired 900 rounds of ammunition from all the guns since we landed, including the affair at Boujanak.

The artillery is very healthy, and the fact of their having tents is supposed to account for exemption from cholera. Our line regiments have not yet received their tents, but a few have been sent up for present use.

October 4.—Forty pieces of heavy artillery were sent up to-day to the park, and twelve tons of gunpowder were safely deposited in the mill on the road leading to Sebastopol.—As the French had very little ground left to operate on our left, the Second Division moved to-day from its position, crossed the ravine on its right, and took up ground near the Fourth Division. The French immediately afterwards sent up a portion of their troops to occupy the vacant ground. The Russians have been indefatigable all day in throwing up batteries and have shelled our advanced posts incessantly.—From the range of the guns it is supposed that they have actually got the heavy pieces which were on board the Tiger. One shell, which fell into the camp of the Fourth Division was marked with the English broad arrow, and had the English brass covered fuse; it did not burst.—Another, fired with more fatal effect, fell right into a tent in which were several men of the 63rd regiment, exploded, and killed a sergeant and two men. This was at a distance of upwards of 4000 yards. It is hoped that the Russians will soon spoil their guns by firing with such heavy charges, and that they will make them droop at the muzzle or otherwise fail by this incessant and trying practice. As yet we have not a gun up to answer them, and it is understood that Lord Raglan is opposed to any desultory fire, and wishes to have all our batteries opened at once. The French will have 60 heavy guns, our siege guns will number 50, and the ships will furnish 60 more. Including mortars, Lancaster guns, and howitzers, we shall have about 200 pieces of artillery in position, and available for the fire on the forts. The round fort on the right has been nearly hid from view by deep earthworks, all made last night and to-day by the Russians. It is stated that in the course of the morning a corps of 16,000 men under General Luders managed to get into Sebastopol.—This seems a strange proceeding, coupled with the departure of a large body of men the day before, unless it be, as is suggested, that the latter were invalids, old men, or useless civilians. A Polish officer deserted from the enemy to-day and came to our camp. He gave much useful information as to the number and disposition of the troops, and the nature of the fortification on the French side of the town, but he did not seem to know much respecting that part of it to which we are now opposed. He declares that the enemy believe we must take the place, but that they are determined to sell every stone of it dearly, and that the Russians will fight to the last. As to the Poles in their service he states that they are only waiting for an opportunity to desert, and are so much suspected of disaffection that the authorities watch them jealously, and do not allow a group of Polish soldiers to converse in the streets. He further states that one of the Admirals had committed suicide; and the reason assigned for the act is, that he was overruled in his opposition to the sinking of the men-of-war in the harbour. A spy was captured by Sir John Burgoyne's orders last night. It was a clever notion of the Russians to send out a woman of unquestionable character into our quarters, but as it was clear that she came from Sebastopol, the trick was a stale one to an old campaigner, and the woman was not permitted to return. We hear that the Sebastopolians are very gay, that parties and balls take place every night in the forts and on board the ships. Furnaces for heating shot were sent up from the beach to the park to-day, and Sir John Burgoyne ordered Captain D' Aguilar to place his guns on the open ground, and fire with red hot shot on the two decker anchored across the harbour. The distance exceeds 3000 yards, and is rather too far for red hot shot to travel with effect. However, the furnaces are not yet available.

The City of London, Captain Cargill, arrived to-day from Varna with staff horses. She brings very bad news indeed. It appears that 78

horses of the Eniskillen Dragoons, and upwards of 100 horses of the Royal Dragoons were shipped some days ago on board the War Cloud and the Wilson Kennedy at Varna for transport to this place. On the passage a violent gale of wind arose, and lasted for nearly two days.—The sea ran high, the ships laboured and strained excessively; all the fitting and horse boxes gave way, and the horses got loose upon deck. In this terrible condition the captains of the ships seem to have been unable to do anything to save the valuable animals entrusted to their charge. Seventy out of the 78 horses on board the War Cloud and 100 horses on board the Wilson Kennedy, perished. This misfortune has fallen with peculiar severity on the Eniskillens, whose melancholy disaster on board the Europa must be still fresh in the memory of all.

The Firebrand landed guns and howitzers from the fleet, and returned this morning. It is stated that the French have sent a man-of-war steamer down the coast about 40 miles to see what Prince Woronzow's villa is made of.—The cholera continues. We lose about 25 men a day out of our greatly diminished force. I have to report the loss, from this fatal pest, of one of the most promising officers in the British army. Captain Hylton Jolliffe, of the Coldstream Guards, expired last night, and was interred this morning. Without the slightest exaggeration, it can be said, that never was a man more beloved by his friends, and that all who knew esteemed him. His remains were followed to the grave by a large number of sorrowing comrades, headed by the Brigadier of the guards, Major-General Bentinck. Not a human being who ever had the smallest acquaintance with him has heard of his loss without deep emotion.

October 5.—To-day Lord Raglan moved on to a cottage about four-and-a-half miles from Balaklava and established head quarters there, at the distance of four miles from Sebastopol.—His staff are encamped around him. The Terrible came in this morning and anchored in the little harbour here, for the purpose of disembarking her heaviest guns, which are to be moved up to the heights forthwith. Great difficulty was experienced in conveying the baggage of the head quarters from Balaklava to such a trifling distance, in consequence of the want of arabas. All the vehicles which the Commissariat had at their disposal had been given to the engineers and artillery. The 400 mules which arrived yesterday have been used up in the service.

The sailors are busy in dragging up guns with their wonted alacrity. It is stated that an officer of the 55th who wandered outside the lines last night has not yet returned. The Cossacks seem to be rather active to-day. The enemy are firing their heavy guns with round shot and shell at intervals, but we are now beyond range. Great quantities of ammunition have been sent up to the artillery park to-day. It is said, however, that our supply of shell is not very plentiful, and that we might have more round shot without danger of being overburdened.

Dr Thomson, of the 44th, and Mr Reade, Assistant Surgeon-Staff, died to-day of cholera. Balaklava, Oct. 8.—Arrivals and departures from this little rocky and castellated inlet or Balaklava are very uncertain and sudden. This morning the Banshee leaves us, and we have only the short notice of an hour or two to prepare our letters. Cholera at the Camp is still very severe, and many cases are brought thence daily in the Arabas to Balaklava. Yesterday our people were to have opened fire at long range upon the works of Sebastopol. As yet the great-east Russian ally has been the exceedingly beautiful clear moonlight nights, which would have rendered plainly visible to them the commencement of our engineering operations.

Since my last letter I have taken another ramble across the dreary-looking country towards Sebastopol, and again looked down upon the enemy hard at work at the fortifications of their doomed city. No shot were on that day fired from the batteries on the north side, but they blazed away occasionally from the white tower near the head of the harbour, and from their new works in that neighbourhood, their shot and shell being principally thrown among the Third Division. While I was sitting in a friend's tent the shot and shell came frequently whizzing over us, and during my stay a shell unfortunately fell and exploded in a tent occupied by soldiers of the 68th, killing a sergeant and a sentry whose post was 200 yards off, and severely wounding three others.—A shot the day before had taken a Rifleman's pack from his back without injuring him.

Sir John Burgoyne, it is said, speaks positively of a few days only being required to reduce the place. From deserters we hear that the Russians are determined to resist to the last; several Poles have come to the camp who speak of the strong disaffection of their brethren in the town. Yesterday morning the large white tower was found to have undergone a metamorphosis during the night, having changed its hue to earth-colour, to render it a less palpable target. The works around this tower are pretty strong mounting heavy guns; in the rear of these is a lunette, now finished, and having all its guns mounted. The shot I saw on the hill, which had been thrown from this place, were 69-pounders (solid). The French occupy in the siege the country from the sea to a little white picket

house above a gorge looking immediately down upon the Dockyard Creek. On the opposite side begin the English, whence they continue until due east of the harbour. I am glad to say that most of the Russian women and children have left the south for the north side; but we can still see many below. I wish, however, that they had not taken all the valuables with them that have been seen departing. There was some skirmishing at the outposts yesterday morning, when four Englishmen and six Cossacks were killed, and two guns have been captured from the enemy near Sebastopol. Yesterday, also, a body of Russian troops, consisting of 4000 cavalry and 3000 infantry, with Cossacks in advance, came from the eastward, to about three miles from Balaklava. Cavalry and Horse Artillery were immediately sent against them, and the Guards and Highlanders got under arms. They were fired into by the Artillery, and immediately retreated. This appeared to be a reconnaissance, and there is a report that a numerous army is in their rear.

The Marine Camp on the heights now numbers 1200 men, and they take the garrison duties of Balaklava. Lord Raglan has left this place, and at present occupies a white house two miles by the road from Sebastopol. Three of the Greys were captured night before last—they were upon outpost duty, and no doubt, must have been very lax in their look-out.—While I write there is a heavy fire going on in the direction of Sebastopol, and most probably before this reaches you it will be crumbled to pieces. I should not at all be surprised if the enemy attacked this place shortly with a large force which we know is in the neighbourhood. They would naturally endeavor to cut off the retreat of the besieging army and annihilate their base of operations.

The forced march of the armies to Balaklava is considered one of the finest achievements ever performed in an enemies country. During the first advance to Alma and to the Katcha the fleets were the basis of all operations, and were concentrated as a point from which the army acted, and to which, if necessary, it might retreat; hence there was no occasion for intrenchments, &c., on landing; but to leave entirely that base and both flanks open, and to arrive at Balaklava through an unknown country struggling on their way through wood and briar, appears a bold step indeed. When the first riflemen appeared on the brow of the heights of Balaklava the Agememnon was approaching from the sea, she had an opportunity of firing shot into the place until the white flag was most vehemently waved by the garrison. The Sanpareil and Tribune have returned from Yalta, which is described as a paradise of fruit trees. The Russians have nearly all disappeared and the Tartars were rambling about the gardens and houses of Prince Woronzoff.

The French opened a fire upon Sebastopol two days ago. A three-decker (they say the Twelve Apostles) is careened over as much as possible, and is troublesome; and a gunboat, with heavy guns, is also disposed to be annoying. It is said that the first step will be to destroy these vessels at a long range. The Twelve Apostles is a fine ship, built on the same line as the English Queen. Seven large Russian ships of war (almost, if not all line-of battle ships) have been sunk at the mouth of the harbour, a small channel being left. I could only see three line-of battle ships the other day.—Seventeen howitzers have been landed from our fleet, and are to be posted on the heights, and the English pieces altogether will number on and side about 150. The Terrible has landed four 68 pounders, and the Beagle (gunboat) yesterday sent her two heavy Lancaster guns on shore. The French are also landing ships guns.

The correspondence from the seat of war all proves that the allied armies before Sebastopol have had to surmount greater obstacles than had been generally foreseen in the preliminary operations of the siege, and their tedious but necessary preparations have occupied about twenty days from the arrival of the forces at Balaklava to the opening of the fire of the besieging batteries. The allied commanders have however judged, and no doubt rightly that it would be rash and imprudent to attempt a sudden assault against a fortress of such strength for the chance of a failure in such an attack could not but produce a most unfavourable effect upon the army, and even its success would probably be purchased by enormous losses.

The time spent by the allies in these preliminary operations has therefore been especially devoted to secure the success of their enterprise and to spare the lives of the troops; and if these two objects are accomplished we shall have no reason to complain of the result.—The British batteries were ready, though not unmasked on the 13th but the French, who had not begun to land their siege-train quite as soon as our forces, were about two days in arrears. The principal works were however finished by both armies on the 15th; and authentic intelligence has been received that on the 17th a vigorous attack was made on the place, supported by a portion of the fleet against the marine batteries, in which it is said that 500 Russians including an admiral in the Imperial service were killed. It remains to be seen what resistance can be made by the Russians from the outworks recently erected on the flank of our