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ADMIRALTY, March 19, 1855.

A DESPATCH, of which the following is a Copy, has been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

PROCEEDINGS AT KERTCH.

*Royal Albert, off Sevastopol,
February 27, 1855.*

SIR,

WITH reference to my letter of the 20th instant (No. 135), reporting the highly creditable proceedings of the blockading squadron off Kertch, under the command of Captain Giffard, of Her Majesty's ship *Leopard*,

2. I have now the honour to enclose copies of two letters which I have received from that active and intelligent officer, reporting his further proceedings, and of his having, in conjunction with His Imperial Majesty's steamer *Fulton*, captured and destroyed ten 50 cwt. 6-inch guns, and burnt seven large boats, two ranges of barrack buildings, also a quantity of military stores and provisions, near the Boghaz of the Kouban Lake, on the 22d instant; and I beg leave to call their Lordships' particular attention to the fact that this gallant service was performed during weather which must have rendered its accomplishment exceedingly difficult, and that Vice-Admiral Bruat and I consider that it reflects the highest credit on Captain Giffard, Captain Lebris, of the *Fulton*, and the officers and men of both Nations employed on the occasion.

3. The enemy appears to have lost a considerable number of men on the occasion, whereas no casualties have occurred on our side.

I am, &c.

ED. LYONS,

Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

*To the Secretary of the Admiralty,
London.*

Enclosure.

*Her Majesty's steam-frigate Leopard,
off Kertch, February 25, 1855.*

REPORTING THE CAPTURE OF ENEMY'S GUNS AND
DESTRUCTION OF MILITARY STORES.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 22d instant His Imperial French Majesty's ship

Fulton having gone to Kassa to reconnoitre, I proceeded towards Anapa in Her Majesty's ship *Leopard*, but on passing the Boghaz of the Kouban Lake, we observed numbers of troops crossing the passage in boats, from Anapa to Taman, so I ran in and anchored off the passage, in $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms.

The troops had landed, but we opened fire on them and drove them to the hills.

I sent a division of boats, under Lieutenant Graham, to examine the buildings on the points, which proved to be guard-houses, barracks, store-houses, and stables, some of which were burnt, but a heavy snow-storm coming on I recalled the boats.

Lieutenant Graham reporting he had seen some guns and other military stores which he had not time to destroy, and which the enemy were transporting from Anapa to Kertch, I again proceeded there on the 24th instant, in company with the *Fulton*.

A few rounds of shot and shell drove the Cossacks and other troops, 400 or 500 in number, to the hills, when the boats under Lieutenant Graham landed, and Monsieur de Bris, in the *Fulton*, took up a position to the north-west, to check the advance of the enemy, who soon after brought some field batteries on the hills and opened a heavy fire of shot and shell upon the ships and boats.

The very accurate fire of the *Fulton* drove them from two positions, and the *Leopard's* shell from a third, after which they retreated behind the hills.

After three hours' work the boats returned, having captured and destroyed ten new and handsome 50 cwt. 6-inch guns, and burnt seven large boats, two ranges of barracks and buildings, also a quantity of military stores and provisions.

The *Fulton* received one shot in her hull, but I am happy to say no casualties occurred.

The loss of the enemy must have been considerable.

I have &c.,

(Signed) GEO. GIFFARD, Captain.

*Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund
Lyons, Bart., G. C. B.,
&c. &c. &c.*