

Although we had observed some six or eight pieces of light artillery following us along the shore, no opposition was made to the disembarkation, and the first of the troops reached the shore at ten o'clock, which, as soon as they were formed, were pushed on to occupy the village on the rising ground bordering the marshy plain on which they landed, for the purpose of covering the remainder of the disembarkation. As they were the most numerous, and as your Lordship had done so on a former occasion, I placed the French on the right, and the British troops on the left, intending to hold the Turkish Contingent in reserve.

Soon after the disembarkation had commenced, several loud explosions were heard, and it was soon discovered that the enemy had blown up the magazines of all his batteries on Cape St Paul, and was retiring by the road leading to Theodosia or Kaffa. It therefore became exceedingly desirable that I should advance to occupy the ridge, of which the cape is the continuation; but as only a few of the Turkish troops had got landed, and but little of the artillery, I contented myself by requesting General Dantemarre to patrol to the cape and towards Kertch, and took up the best position I could find for the security of the troops and the protection of the disembarkation of all the necessary materiel and horses during the night, just before dark—which, in an open steppe, where we were exposed to the attacks of cavalry, was an operation of some difficulty.

In the course of the evening several more loud explosions were heard, and it was soon discovered that he had also blown up and abandoned the whole of his works here, and along the coast between this and Kertch, and spiked all the guns. He had also set fire to and destroyed some large corn magazines in Kertch, as well as two steamers in the harbour; and the Cossacks, as usual, burnt all the forage and farm-houses in their way.

As soon as the batteries on Cape St Paul were abandoned, or soon before, some of the smaller war-steamer were enabled to round Cape Ackbouroun, and enter the Bay of Kertch, when they engaged and endeavoured to cut off some of the enemy's steamers attempting to escape into the Sea of Azof. They succeeded, I believe, in capturing a small one; but the other two managed to get through.

The disembarkation of horses, guns, and materiel went on during the whole night, under the zealous and active superintendence of Rear-Admiral Houston Stewart and Captain Sir Thomas Pasley; but, with all this, there was a good deal to be done at daylight this morning, and I was ultimately compelled to proceed with only three of the guns of the Turkish Contingent, and without any of their officers' horses.

Under the circumstances, however, I considered it imperative to proceed, and the whole force marched off their ground at six this morning,—the French in contiguous columns, followed by their artillery; the British in echelons of columns, covering their flank, and their own artillery and baggage; and the Turkish troops in contiguous columns of battalions, covering the rear of the whole, until they approached the heights of Kertch, when the whole of the troops broke into an ordinary column of route. The tower of Kertch is clean, and remarkably well built, and the troops passed through it with the greatest regularity and without the slightest disorder; subsequently the day became

excessively hot, and the march being a long one, the men suffered greatly from fatigue and want of water, which was only to be found at occasional wells. We managed to get in here, however, by one o'clock, where we were soon after visited by the three Admirals, and found a large squadron of small steamers and gun-boats ready to proceed into the Sea of Azof, under the command of Captain Lyons, of the *Miranda*.

The result of these operations, besides the opening of the passage into that sea, and the destruction of the enemy's works, has been the capture of upwards of fifty of his guns, many of them of the largest calibre and the best construction; and if the enterprize has, from circumstances, not added greatly to the glory of Her Majesty's arms, it has, as already stated, so far been attended by complete success.

That success, however, is mainly to be attributed to the judicious arrangements of Admirals Bruat and Sir E. Lyons, and to their indefatigable attention in carrying them out, as well as to the able and willing assistance they have received from the Captains and other Officers of the French and British navy under their respective commands; nor must I omit to mention the invariable and willing assistance I have on all occasions received in the course of this service from General Dantemarre, commanding the French Division, and from Reschid Pasha, commanding the Sultan's troops.

I omitted to state that in passing through Kertch this morning, observing that an iron foundry there had been employed in the manufacture of shot and shells, as well as in casting Minié bullets, I caused it to be destroyed, with all its new and expensive machinery.

Your's, &c.,  
G. BROWN.

*F. M. the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,*  
*&c., &c., &c.*

Enclosure 2.

*Return of Casualties from the 25th to the 27th of*  
*May 1855, inclusive.*

3d Regiment of Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
4th Foot—3 rank and file, wounded.  
14th Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
18th Foot—1 rank and file, killed.  
34th Foot—1 Officer, wounded.  
38th Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
39th Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
41st Foot—1 rank and file, killed; 4 rank and file, wounded.  
47th Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
48th Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
49th Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
77th Foot—1 rank and file, killed.  
88th Foot—1 rank and file, wounded.  
2d Battalion Rifle Brigade—1 rank and file, killed.  
Royal Sappers and Miners—1 rank and file, wounded.  
Total—4 rank and file, killed; 1 Officer, 16 rank and file, wounded.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT,  
Adjutant-General.

