

manner in which the cavalry I have the honour to command manœuvred in the field, as likewise of the good practice of our Horse Artillery; and I may perhaps be permitted to express my acknowledgments of the courtesy evinced towards me, and the troops under my command, by the General during the time we were in the field, and since we landed at Eupatoria.

I beg to enclose a Return of Casualties,\* caused by exhaustion from the want of water, of which there was a very great scarcity everywhere.

Captain Hamilton, Royal Navy, has requested me to inform you that the French brig of war *Allouette*, and Her Majesty's ship *Diamond*, co-operated with the troops on this occasion; but that he, finding a sailing vessel unhandy on this service, placed the guns and men of the *Diamond* on board the steam transport *Oneida*, from which he fired on the flanks, and on some advanced picquets of the enemy. I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEO. PAGET,  
Brigadier-General Commanding Light  
Cavalry Brigade at Eupatoria.

*The General Commanding-in-Chief,  
in front of Sevastopol.*

FOREIGN OFFICE, November 10, 1855.

THE Earl of Clarendon has received a Despatch from Major-General Williams, Her Majesty's Commissioner with the Turkish Army in Asia, of which the following is a Copy:—

*Kars, October 3, 1855.*

MY LORD,

I HAD the honour to announce to your Lordship, on the evening of the 29th ultimo, the glorious victory gained on the morning of that day by the Sultan's troops on the heights above Kars, over the Russian Army commanded by General Muravieff, and I now beg to furnish your Lordship with the principal incidents of that sanguinary battle.

Your Lordship will perhaps recollect that in my Despatch, No. 123, of the 28th of June, I stated that the Russian General, after his second demonstration against the southern face of our intrenchments, which is flanked by Hafiz Pasha Tabia and Kanli Tabia, marched south, and established his camp at Bugah Tikmé, a village situated about four miles from Kars. Knowing that General Muravieff served in the army which took Kars in 1828, I conceived his last manœuvre to be preparatory either to a reconnaissance or an attack upon the heights of Tahmasb, from whence the Russians successfully pushed their approaches in the year above cited.

Whilst, therefore, the enemy's columns were in march towards Bugah Tikmé, I visited those heights with Lieutenant-Colonel Lake, and after studying the ground decided upon the nature of the works to be thrown up; these were planned and executed by Lieutenant-Colonel Lake with great skill and energy. I enclose for your Lordship's information a plan made by that officer of the town and its neighbouring heights, which are situated on the opposite side of the river of Kars Chai, over which three temporary bridges had been thrown to keep up our communications. As all verbal descriptions, or bird's-eye views of ground, convey but an imperfect idea of any locality, I beg to enclose a sketch made by Mr Churchill, which will, I trust, tend to elucidate my description.

\* 2 Troop Horses, 3 Mules—Land Transport Corps.

Your Lordship will observe that whilst our camp and magazines in the town were rendered as safe as circumstances would allow, the hills above Kars commanded all, and were therefore the keys of our position.

The intrenchments of Tahmasb, being those nearest the enemy's camp, demanded the greatest vigilance from all entrusted in their defence; General Kmety, a gallant Hungarian officer, commanded the Division which occupied this eminence, he was assisted by Major-General Hussein Pacha and his aide-de-camp Major Teesdale who has acted as his Chief of the Staff.

Throughout the investment, which has now lasted four months, the troops in all the redoubts and intrenchments have kept a vigilant look-out during the night, and at their appointed stations, stood to their arms long before day dawn. In my Despatch, No. 155, of the 29th ultimo, I informed your Lordship of the arrival of the news of the fall of Sebastopol, and of the landing of Omar Pacha at Batoom. I also acquainted your Lordship with the fact that the Russian General was engaged in sending off immense trains of heavy baggage into Georgia, and showing every indication of a speedy retreat; this in no wise threw us off our guard, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lake was directed to strengthen many points in our extensive and undermanned lines, and amongst other works, the Tabia bearing my name was constructed.

At four o'clock on the eventful morning of the 29th the enemy's columns were reported to be advancing on the Tahmasb front. They were three in number, supported by 24 guns; the first or right column being directed on Tahmasb Tabia, the second on Yukseh Tabia, and the third on the breastwork called Rennison Lines. As soon as the first gun announced the approach of the enemy the reserves were put under arms in a central position, from which succours could be despatched either to Tahmasb or the English lines.

The mist and imperfect light of the dawning day induced the enemy to believe that he was about to surprise us; he advanced with his usual steadiness and intrepidity; but on getting within range he was saluted with a crushing fire of artillery from all points of the line. This unexpected reception, however, only drew forth loud hurrahs from the Russian infantry as it rushed up the hill on the redoubts and breastworks. These works poured forth a fire of musketry and rifles, which told with fearful effect on the close columns of attack, more especially on the left one, which, being opposed by a battalion of 450 Chasseurs, armed with Minié rifles, was, after long and desperate fighting, completely broken, and sent headlong down the hill, leaving 850 dead on the field, besides those carried off by their comrades.

The central column precipitated itself on the redoubts of Tahmasb and Yuksek Tabias, where desperate fighting occurred and lasted for several hours, the enemy being repulsed in all his attempts to enter the closed redoubts, which mutually flanked each other with their artillery and musketry, and made terrible havoc in the ranks of the assailants; and it was here that Generals Kmety and Hussein Pacha, together with Major Teesdale, so conspicuously displayed their courage and conduct. Lieutenant-General Kereen Pasha also repaired to the scene of desperate strife to encourage the troops, and was wounded in the shoulder, and had two horses killed under him.

The right column of the Russian infantry, supported by a battery, eventually turned the left flank of the intrenched wing of the Tahmasb