

the night before, and there was an absence of water for a circumference of many miles to our front. The column therefore returned to Eupatoria yesterday, the 29th instant.

I beg to report that I have attached Captain the Honourable Charles Keith, 4th Light Dragoons, to General D'Allonville, during the time the troops are in the field, and that I sent Captain Clifton, 12th Lancers, on board Her Majesty's ship Diamond, to assist Captain Hamilton, R.N., in his operations.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) GEO. PAGET,  
Brigadier-General, Commanding British  
Troops at Eupatoria.

To His Excellency  
The General Commanding-in-Chief.

Enclosure 3.

Eupatoria,  
November 3, 1855.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that a portion of the allied troops stationed here, under the command of General of Brigade Ali Pasha, strength as per margin \* were sent yesterday to the village of Tchotai, fifteen miles to the north of Eupatoria, in consequence of information of some stores of hay, live stock, &c., having been collected there by the enemy.

The two squadrons of the 12th Lancers with this force were commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Tottenham of that regiment, whose report I have the honour to enclose, and by which it will be gratifying to observe, that this operation met with the most complete success.

The remainder of the allied forces here made at the same time a demonstration to the right of this village, for the purpose of drawing off the attention of the enemy; the English Brigade of Cavalry advancing as far as Yultschuk, the French on their right.

Colonel Pole, 12th Lancers, was in command, an attack of fever having for some days confined me to my bed, and he reports that no enemy made its appearance in any force.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) GEO. PAGET,  
Brigadier-General, Commanding British  
Troops at Eupatoria.

To His Excellency  
The General Commanding-in-Chief.

Enclosure 4.

MY LORD, Eupatoria, November 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that, agreeably to Brigade Orders of the 1st instant, I proceeded at 4 A.M., yesterday, in command of two squadrons of the 12th Royal Lancers, to join the force under Ali Pasha, ordered to assemble in front of the Turkish cavalry camp.

At daylight we marched through Alchir to Tchotai, a village about 15 miles from this. The Turkish cavalry were in advance, supported by the English and French squadrons. We arrived at Tchotai about half-past eleven, and captured 1 Russian Commissariat Officer, (as it is supposed,) 1 Cossack, about 40 arabas, and about

\* Under the orders of General of Brigade Ali Pasha: —  
Bashi Bazouks.  
2 Regiments of Turkish Cavalry.  
2 French squadrons (Hussars).  
2 English squadrons (Lancers).

3,000 head of horses, camels, oxen, and sheep; 3 Russian carriages were also brought in, and a considerable number of the inhabitants of the village.

We started on our return at half-past one, having set fire to the villages, and destroyed 30 large ricks of hay. We arrived in camp about 8½ P.M., no resistance was offered by the enemy.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) W. H. TOTTENHAM,  
Lt.-Colonel, 12th Royal Lancers.

Brigadier General Lord George Paget,  
Commanding the Light Brigade,  
Eupatoria.

WAR-DEPARTMENT, November 29, 1855.

LORD PANMURE has this day received a Despatch and its Enclosures, of which the following are Copies, addressed to his Lordship by General Sir William Codrington, K.C.B. :—

Sevastopol, November 17, 1855.

MY LORD,

ON the 15th instant, about 3 P.M., a terrific explosion shook the camp of the army, and spread heavy destruction in the immediate neighbourhood of its force; even here, at Head-Quarters, two and a half miles perhaps distant, it burst open and broke windows,—all felt the power of it,—and the high column of smoke, with shells bursting in the midst and around it, told too well the cause, and showed the danger of all within its reach.

It was not long before we were on the spot; to the sudden burst had succeeded a continued and dark drift of smoke, which told its tale of continued fire and of danger; constant bursting of shells was going on, and the ground was covered with bits of wood, musquet balls, and splinters of shells from the first heavy explosion, which had strewed the ground with destruction, and killed and hurt very many people.

100,000 pounds of powder had exploded in the French siege train, set fire to all the stores there, and to our neighbouring English park, where all was fiercely burning, whilst the tendency of the light air at first threatened a second and as serious an accident from powder, not eighty yards off, for the roof of the building had been damaged, and the door blown in by the shock.

Some General Officers had fallen in, and marched part of their divisions down, others sent some in fatigue,—some with stretchers for the wounded,—all exerted themselves with the French with an energy and disregard of danger that was admirable; blankets were taken to the exposed store, placed and wetted on the roof by water being passed up in buckets; the doors were covered with wet blankets and sandbags, and in a short time it was reported and looked safe, though the closeness of the fire and frequent explosions could not allow the feeling of security. Many detached though small fires were burning, and the ground of both the French and English parks, a space of 150 yards across, was a mass of large fires, some of fuel, some of huts, some of gun-carriages, boxes, handspikes, and rope.

The fortunately light air had rather changed its direction, and by breaking up and dragging away things, a sort of lane was at last formed, the fires cut off, and gradually got under control, because confined to smaller though fierce fires, but manageable.

I saw every one working well, and I know that French and English took live shells from the neighbourhood of danger to a more distant spot,