

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 22nd 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 22nd instant, His Imperial French Majesty's ship *Fulton* having gone to Kaffa 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.

AT the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 28th day of *February*, 1855,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to make better provision for the spiritual care of populous parishes," duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a scheme, bearing date the twenty-second day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, in the words following; that is to say:

"We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of your Majesty's reign, intituled 'An Act to make better provision for the spiritual care of populous parishes,' have prepared, and now humbly lay before your Majesty in Council, the following scheme for authorizing the sale of certain property formerly belonging to the prebend of Bilton, in the cathedral and metropolitan church of York, and now vested in us.

"Whereas it is by the said Act (amongst other things) enacted, that notwithstanding the charge by that Act created (being a charge created in favour of the Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne), all the same and the like powers and rights of ownership as are possessed and enjoyed respecting and over any lands, tithes, rent-charges, tenements, or other hereditaments whatsoever, by any absolute owner thereof, shall be enjoyed by us with respect to and over all or any lands, tithes, rent-charges, tenements, or other hereditaments vested in us under certain Acts therein mentioned (being the Acts under which the property herein-after described is vested in us), and may, subject to the provisions of the same Acts, and of the now reciting Act, be exercised by us, by proper instruments in writing, duly executed according to law, with a certain proviso respecting the application of every sum of money received as the consideration or purchase money for the sale, transfer, or conveyance by us of any of such lands, tithes, tenements, or other hereditaments, or of any estate or interest therein, and with a further proviso that none of such lands, tithes, tenements, or other hereditaments be sold, transferred, or conveyed, except by the authority of a scheme, and an Order issued by your Majesty in Council ratifying the same:

"And whereas all the lands, tenements, hereditaments, and endowments formerly belonging to the said prebend of Bilton (except any right of ecclesiastical patronage), became vested in us by virtue of an Order of your Majesty in Council, bearing date the thirtieth day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and duly published in the London Gazette of the thirty-first day of the same month,