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FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1855.

War-Department, April 20, 1855.

LORD PANMURE has this day received two Despatches and their Enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to His Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

My Lord,
Before Sevastopol,
April 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a letter of this date, from Dr. Hall, enclosing a weekly return of the sick of the Army, up to the 31st ultimo.

Your Lordship will see, with satisfaction, that the general health of the Army continues steadily to improve.

I have also to submit to your Lordship, with reference to your despatch, No. 22, of the 26th February, the copy of a letter from the same officer, on the question of accommodation for wounded men, on the event of any sudden emergency occurring.

As the ships referred to by Dr. Hall are constantly on passage, and might all be so at the time they might be wanted for the wounded, I proposed to Sir Edmund Lyons to have some sailing vessels got ready for their reception, and accordingly, with his sanction, the following transports are under preparation;—Orient, Sir George Pollock, St. Hilder, William Jackson, and Poitiers;—and it is calculated that they will hold from 100 to 150 men each.

I have, &c.,
RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c. &c.

Enclosure 1.

Before Sevastopol,
April 3, 1855.

My Lord,

IN transmitting the weekly state of sick to the 31st March I have the honour to state, and I am sure it will be pleasing to your Lordship to learn, that the general health of the Army continues steadily to improve; and although fevers and bowel complaints continue to prevail, they are both assuming a milder character, and the latter are of much less frequent occurrence.

During the present week the admissions to strength have been in the ratio of 3.93 per cent., and the deaths to strength 0.38 per cent.

Last week, the admissions to strength were 4.35 per cent., and the deaths 0.52 per cent.;

which makes a decrease of 139 in the admissions, and 43 in the deaths during the week.

Fever continues to prevail in some particular regiments more than in others; but I am in hope change of locality will correct this.

The comforts of the men are greatly improved in every respect, and it is evinced by their cheerfulness, and more healthy appearance.

The rations are good and abundant, the men are well clothed, and due attention is paid to the sanitary condition of the different camps. The supply of water is ample at present, and means are being adopted to insure it in future, by constructing new tanks, cleaning out those that already exist, and digging fresh wells.

Indeed, so far as the physical wants of the men are concerned, I am of opinion the force is as well provided as any army can reasonably expect to be when employed on active service in the field.

The hospitals are on a respectable footing, not crowded, and amply provided with all that is necessary for the comfort and welfare of the sick; and if the casualties of war do not fill our hospitals, we may fairly look forward to have a diminished sick list in future.

But should the chances of war unfortunately produce wounded, I calculate we shall be able to accommodate 1400 on shore, and arrangements are being made for the reception of between 500 and 600 on board ship, which I sincerely trust will be more than sufficient for our wants.

I have, &c.

J. HALL,
Inspector-General of Hospitals,
To Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,
Commanding-in-Chief.

Enclosure 2.

Before Sevastopol,
March 23, 1855.

SIR,

WITH reference to the question of accommodation for wounded men in the event of any sudden emergency arising, I have the honour to state, for the information of the Field-Marshal Commanding in Chief, that in addition to the accommodation which the regimental establishments of the divisions in front will afford—say from 250 to 300—I propose to occupy thirty of the new huts in rear of the 3rd Division, at present in possession of the 14th and 39th Regiments, which would afford comfortable accommodation for 480; and as these huts are built on dry, elevated, clean ground,