

SUPPLEMENT

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War Department, May 3, 1856.

LORD PANMURE has received a Despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Lordship by General Sir William Codrington, K.C.B.

Sevastopol, April 19, 1856.

MY LORD,

ON the 12th instant General Lüders sent an answer to my letter as to the entrance of our vessels into the harbour. It was to the effect that he had received orders to place no impediment in the way of vessels of any description entering the harbour of Sevastopol. I accordingly informed Admiral Fremantle; and on the 14th instant he proceeded to the harbour, with his flag on board Her Majesty's ship Banshee, and, passing through the lines of wreck, anchored inside the quay of Fort Paul. Having met the Admiral in the dockyard, we went up the harbour in a small steamboat, and, passing also along the north side, landed at Fort Constantine, receiving all civility and attention on the part of the Russian officers.

General Lüders had invited Marshal Pelissier, General La Marmora, and myself to meet him at the Traktir Bridge, at twelve o'clock, on the 13th instant, in order that we might accompany him to a breakfast on the Mackenzie Heights. The meeting accordingly took place. General Lüders, with a large staff of Russian officers, was received in the French lines by a Guard of Honour, and with a salute of Artillery, after which, followed by many officers of the Allied and Russian Armies, we crossed the river and the plain of the Tchernaya, and ascended the heights of Mackenzie, at the road by which our Army came to Balaklava on the flank march from the Belbek, in September, 1854.

About 6000 infantry and one battery of Artil- mora, with Sardinian officers, were good enough lery, the division of General Vassilitzky, were to meet General Lüders at this house. Your

paraded and marched past; a short distance, further on the heights, a large and ornamented marquee had been pitched, in which we were the guests of General Lüders, and nothing could exceed the courtesy and attention of all the officers of the Russian Army.

On the 15th General Lüders came, with many Russian officers, to Marshal Pelissier's to breakfast, and to be present at some races; it is needless to say that their reception was as cordial and the attention as kind as that shown to us in the Russian camp. The afternoon was passed at the course in the neighbourhood of the Monastery of St. George, where the races and a Carrousel of the Chasseurs d'Afrique finished the day.

On the 17th, Marshal Pelissier reviewed the French army, on the range of heights near the Monastery of St. George.

From all sides from Kamiesch at some distance on the west, from the Feduchine, and the inner heights on the plain of Balaklava, and from the nearer camps below us, we saw the French columns, with their artillery, pass over the undulating ground below to the concentration upon their position on the heights.

At eleven o'clock we met General Lüders at the Col-de-Balaklava, and, riding up the steep hill above it, we passed along the line of columns extending, in more open order than we generally form, a distance of about two miles and a half. The Army then marched past, 88 battalions, 5 regiments of Cavalry, Siege Artillerymen, Sappers and 198 guns; the defile of this fine Army lasting till three p.m.

General Lüders then came to luncheon at the English Head Quarters. The General Officers of our Army had been invited, and Marshal Pelissier, with many French officers, and General La Marmora, with Sardinian officers, were good enough to meet General Lüders at this house. Your