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1875-1876  
Annual Report

Name	Age	Sex	Occupation
John Smith	45	M	Farmer
Mary Jones	35	F	Homemaker
Robert Brown	25	M	Teacher
Elizabeth White	55	F	Widow
James Green	30	M	Carpenter
Sarah Black	40	F	Dressmaker
William Gray	20	M	Student
Anna King	60	F	Widow
Thomas Lee	38	M	Blacksmith
Rebecca Hall	48	F	Homemaker

Royal Panorama,  
A DESCRIPTION OF A



Leicester Square,  
VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL.



- |                      |                                      |   |                                 |                                    |                        |                           |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Zouaves.          | 8. Streletskaia Bay (Arrow Bay).     | 14. Round Tower Battery—44 Guns.        | 20. Flagstaff Battery.          | 26. Barrack Battery.               | 32. Redan Battery.     | 38. Navy Baking House.    |
| 2. Siege Train.      | 9. French Parallels.                 | 15. Fort Alexander.                     | 21. Sievernaia Battery.         | 27. Hospital, Barracks, and Docks. | 33. Sailors' Battery.  | 39. Inkerman Light, West. |
| 3. Cape Chersonesus. | 10. Cemetery, and French Batteries.  | 16. Fort Constantine and Cape—104 Guns. | 22. Star Fort.                  | 28. Great Harbour.                 | 34. Chapman's Battery. | 40. Ruins of Inkerman.    |
| 4. Kazatch Bay.      | 11. Chersonesus Bay.                 | 17. Wasp Fort.                          | 23. St. Nicholas Fort—192 Guns. | 29. Gollandiya.                    | 35. Gordon's Battery.  | 41. Inkerman Light, East. |
| 5. Kamiesch Bay.     | 12. Star Battery and Ancient Church. | 18. Fort Catherine—80 Guns.             | 24. Fort St. Paul—80 Guns.      | 30. Careening Bay.                 | 36. Lancaster Guns.    | 42. Caves of Inkerman.    |
| 6. Paschana Bay.     | 13. Quarantine Bay.                  | 19. City of Sebastopol.                 | 25. Military Harbour.           | 31. Malakhoff Tower and Battery.   | 37. Mamelon Hill.      | 43. Three Gun Battery.    |
| 7. French Camp.      |                                      |   |                                 |                                    |                        |                           |



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|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 44. Commissariat Train.      | 48. Tchadir Dagh, or Tent Mountain. | 52. Lord Raglan and Staff. | 55. Defence Works.               | 58. Balaklava.             | 61. Redoubt.                           | 64. Chasseurs de Cheval.         |
| 45. Mackenzie Farm.          | 49. Woronzoff Road.                 | 53. Telegraph.             | 56. Cavalry and Artillery Camp.  | 59. Redoubt and Batteries. | 62. Farms.                             | 65. Road to Balaklava.           |
| 46. British Camp.            | 50. Jeuzde-Oter Farm.               | 54. Babugan Mountain.      | 57. Lord Raglan's Head Quarters. | 60. Turkish Battery.       | 63. General Canrobert's Head Quarters. | 66. General Canrobert and Staff. |
| 47. Commissariat Department. | 51. Redoubt.                        |                            |                                  |                            |  |                                  |

DESCRIPTION  
OF  
A VIEW  
OF  
THE CITY OF  
SEBASTOPOL,

AND THE  
SURROUNDING FORTIFICATIONS;

The Attack of the Allied Armies;

THE BRITISH & FRENCH CAMPS, &c.

NOW EXHIBITING

AT

THE PANORAMA, LEICESTER SQUARE



PAINTED BY THE PROPRIETOR,

M<sup>R</sup> ROBERT BURFORD,

THE FIGURES BY H. C. SELOUS.

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1855.



## SEBASTOPOL.

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SEBASTOPOL, the finest port and harbour possessed by the Russians in western Europe, and acknowledged by every competent judge to be one of the strongest naval stations in the world, at the present moment engrosses in an intense degree public attention, and has become an object of deep and absorbing interest to all civilized nations. The present struggle for its possession is doubtless one of the most important in history, for its issue will exercise a mighty influence over the future destiny of Europe. Already it has withstood for more than eight months the combined attacks of the allied armies of England, France, and Turkey, and has acquired a melancholy celebrity in the annals of Great Britain, from the circumstance, that before its walls have perished some of her noblest and most gallant sons, and thousands of the flower of her army; not alone by the honorable death of the soldier, but by far more fearful enemies—want, pestilence, and disease. It is, however, to be hoped by the vigorous measures now being pursued, the tremendous crisis of the campaign is approaching, and that by a crowning effort, no long time will elapse before this proud fortress will be either totally destroyed, or that it will be surrendered into the hands of the allies by a just, honorable, and permanent peace.

The Panorama of this important Fortress, upon which millions of money and thousands of lives have been expended, is taken from the centre of the vast plateau occupied by the allied armies, on the south side of the city, close to a gorge that separates the English from the French approaches, and from whence the ground gradually slopes downwards to the harbour. Immediately in front of the spectator, the city commands attention; from this distance, about a mile-and-a-half, it has the appearance of being a handsome, regular, well-built place, composed of white stone, which, sparkling in the sun, has a new and beautiful effect. The towers and spires of the churches, reading rooms, and telegraph, rising conspicuously above the vast masses of buildings, agreeably break the monotony of the long lines of green and red roofs.

The whole of the military or lesser harbour is distinctly seen, as well as the two important Forts of Nicholas and Paul that defend its entrance from the great harbour. On the left of it are the cathedral, the church of St. Paul, and many public and private buildings of handsome elevation; to the right are the Docks, two very extensive

and massive buildings the great barracks and military hospital, the arsenal, and the extensive suburb of the Karabalnaia.

Towers, walls, batteries, earthworks, and defences of every description enclose the city on this side, most of them constructed and armed since its investment by the allies. Towards the left the most conspicuous are the Barrack and Garden Batteries, the often mentioned Flag Staff Battery, and several strong towers and fortified walls terminating at the sea in Quarantine Fort, and the strong Fort of Alexander at the entrance of the harbour. Towards the right is the long wall called the Redan, with its numerous batteries; the Redan Fort, and the Malakhoff Tower now become celebrated, from the numerous and deadly struggles that have taken place in its vicinity.

Beyond Sebastopol, towards the north, is seen the full extent of the noble harbour, with the strong forts that defend its entrance from the Black Sea, as well as the numerous batteries that line it on both sides; and at a greater distance is the Wasp Battery, and an immense work called the Star Fort; beyond which, in the direction of Belbec and Alma, is a considerable extent of undulating country bounded on the west by the sea.

Towards the east are seen the batteries, entrenchments, zigzags, and other approaches of the British, traced on the sloping ground in the angle formed by the outer and inner harbours, and occupying a front of at least four miles in length, on the extreme right of which, at the termination of the plateau, are Inkerman Heights, above the Valley of Tchernaya, celebrated for its two most gallant battles of Oct. 26 and Nov. 5. On the opposite side of the valley is the Hill of Inkerman, with its singular caverns, surmounted by some ancient fortifications now occupied by the Russians; and in the low ground may be seen the head of the great harbour into which falls the Tchernaya, the partially destroyed aqueduct; and still more distant, the east and west Inkerman Lighthouses.

Towards the west the cordon is continued on ground comparatively flat and unbroken, by the works of the French, their trenches, batteries, &c. being formed in the angle between the inner harbour and the sea, directly facing the principal part of the city, their extreme left resting, as will be seen, on the Quarantine Harbour.

Towards the south are the British and French camps, placed two or three hundred feet below the rise of the plateau, so as to be protected from the guns of the Russians, and enclosed in the rear by a long line of redoubts and other defences, occupying the heights from above Tchernaya to the heights above Balaklava, which town, laying low between two considerable headlands, cannot be seen; but the whole line of bold cliffs bounding the peninsula from that place to Cape Fiorente, thence to Cape Chersonese, the extreme point of land, and thence to Quarantine Bay, including Kamiesh, Streletskaia, and other considerable inlets, is distinctly visible, bounded by a fine expanse of the Black Sea, on which the combined fleets of the allies are seen riding about or at anchor.

In the opposite direction the view is bounded by a fine range of hills stretching towards the east, the picturesque summits of which are covered with snow during the winter months, which in May is replaced by a fine rich verdure, and the slopes and valleys are covered with timber and fruit



trees. The most conspicuous of the range is Tchadir Dagh, the highest mountain of the Crimea.

Nothing can be imagined more bare and barren than the plateau, and the country immediately surrounding Sebastopol; although an elevated table land, it is so extensive that it produces the effect of an undulating plain, the general coloring of which is a drabish brown; it was originally covered with a short dry turf, scarcely clothing the grey rock which every here and there pushed its fragments through it; there were also a few patches of coppice or short oak scrub, and some trees round the farms, and at intervals down the several ravines that intersect the plain, but these have all been cut for fire-wood and other purposes; all is now bare, brown, well-trodden earth, strewn with stones, without the least vegetation; the cultivated strips at the bottoms of the gorges, and the woods and vineyards in the valleys, lying too low to affect the general landscape.

A great portion of this extensive foreground is occupied and enlivened by thousands of figures, presenting a most varied and interesting picture of war in all its pomp and circumstance, as well as in many of its attendant trials and sacrifices. Two prominent groups represent the two gallant commanders, Lord Raglan and General Canrobert, each surrounded by a brilliant staff, making their daily inspection of the progress of the siege; close to them is a large battery in full operation. Vast supplies of stores and munitions of war are seen arriving in a long line of waggons, bullock carts, and native Arabas, drawn by that useful animal the Bactrian Camel. Carts conveying gabions, fascines, and other material, are hastening to the front, and working parties are departing to the trenches, whilst others are returning, bringing in the wounded and dead. Some regiments are being paraded, others are employed in the necessary duties of the camp, or are wiling away the tedious hours with the best amusements they can devise; the whole presenting a most truthful and spirited representation of every-day life in the camp.

The Crimea, the Taurida Chersonesus of ancient geographers, from its central position between Europe and Asia, its salubrious climate, its fertile plains, and especially its indented shores, affording noble harbours and positions of defence, has, from the remotest antiquity, been regarded by every enterprising people—pastoral, commercial, or war-like—as one of the most important possessions in the old world. Here the enterprising sons of ancient Greece founded colonies, which continued to flourish in all that contributes to man's civilization, until the advent of the Romans, by whom, after long protracted wars, they were driven out. After the decline of the Roman Empire, it became subject to many masters, having been over-run in succession by Celts, Scythians, Goths, and Huns, who spread ruin and desolation. Towards the end of the eleventh century the Genoese were in possession, who in their turn were expelled by the Crim Tartars in 1474, who retained it as tributaries to the Porte until 1774, when it was finally taken by the Russians, who, from the time of Peter the Great, had aimed at dispossessing the Sultan of his dominions, from the shores of the Baltic to the Gulf of Venice, and thus opening a path to the whole of western Europe.

Peter the Great was, unquestionably, the founder of the Russian

Empire; he radically changed the aspect of affairs in that country, and gave it a degree of importance it had never before possessed. A country scantily inhabited and ill cultivated he enriched by agriculture and trade; he planted colonies, and raised towns where there had been nothing but forests and swamps, and raised the people, in spite of themselves, from a state of barbarism and moral degradation; but to crown his efforts with complete success, he clearly saw that he must possess strong sea ports and a powerful fleet, to enable him to struggle against the numerous foes by whom he was surrounded, and ensure security at home, and political importance abroad. "It is not land I want, but water," was his frequent exclamation, and he exerted all his energies to obtain it, both on the Baltic and the Black Sea. Nor was his work ill-seconded by his successors. At the time of his death, the empire contained 4,381,040 square miles; in less than a century and-a-half it has been extended to 6,006,010 square miles. The acquisition of the Crimea, and the construction of a vast naval arsenal in one of its fine harbours, to secure the Black Sea as an outlet for the growing trade of the empire, as well as with a view to the further acquisition of territory in western Europe, were essential points in the vast scheme of policy of Peter. In 1689 he invaded the Crimea, but was defeated with the loss of nearly 6000 of his best troops. In 1696 he was more successful, and took Azoph and Taganrog, and fought several other battles with various success until 1711, when, by the celebrated treaty of Pruth, all his advantages were given up.

The Tartar princes of the Golden Horde still reigned, when the political intrigues of Russia effected that which their arms had been unable to accomplish; exterminating dissensions were fermented, successive invasions followed, and in a few years the annexation of the Crimea to the empire of Russia, was consummated by its complete cession by the Turks in 1784. Catherine, having thus obtained what her great ancestor so earnestly sought, quitted her capital with a retinue of 40,000 men, under the pretence of visiting the remote parts of her dominions, and appeared on the shores of the Euxine, before the Turks were even informed of her departure from St. Petersburg, and here indeed, whilst preparing plans for the future strength of Sebastopol, she might have uttered with some degree of truth, her proud but delusive hope, "here lies the road to Byzantium."

From the time the absolute domination of Russia commenced over the peninsula and its coasts, a southern hemisphere was opened to their arms, and in all their subsequent struggles the Turks have been more or less losers. The Circassian coast was conquered and occupied; the Danube became a Russian stream by the seizure of the right bank of the Sulina mouth; Odessa rose into commercial importance and prosperity; the Euxine became a Russian lake, the whole coast of Asia Minor being at the mercy of the fleet at Sebastopol, and the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi proved with what facility an army might land in the Sultan's valley, and proclaim a Russian protectorate at Constantinople. An occasion was only needed, to be the signal for the complete subjugation of Turkey, and to enter the waters of the Mediterranean; and it is impossible to say where the visions of universal domination might cease, unless some powerful

means were devised to stop this insatiable thirst for extension of power.

The causes which led to the present war—the alliance with France—the transport and landing the immense armies of the allies, in a country where no soldier of the western world had trodden since the Crusaders—the glorious Battle of the Alma—the famous flank movement through a difficult and almost unknown country—the arrival at Balaklava—and the investment of Sebastopol on the south side instead of the north, as originally intended, are events too vividly in the recollection of everyone to need recapitulation. By this movement the basis of operations was entirely changed, the north side of the city being left completely open, the south side being alone the object of attack; and here, so completely were the Russians taken by surprise, no preparations whatever had been made for defence. A general panic prevailed in the city when the allies first appeared on the heights, and it is the universal opinion, that the place might at once have been carried by a *coup de main*; this, however, it was not deemed prudent to attempt, and subsequently, from the small force at the disposal of the commanders, they have been unable to prevent the enemy from throwing in unlimited supplies of men and ammunition.

The allies reached Balaklava on the 26th of September, 1854, and took possession of the town and harbour, without the least opposition. The post was one of immense importance, for the small harbour being completely land-locked, affords admirable facilities for the debarkation of troops, artillery, and stores, whilst the town itself is naturally well protected from attack on the land side. The French occupied at the same time Kamiesch and Streletskaia—two bays on the north-west coast, much nearer Sebastopol—for the purpose of landing their material. Having thus secured uninterrupted communication with the fleets, the armies, after a few days spent in landing and bringing up the armament for the attack, commenced opening the trenches on the 10th of October, and proceeded to throw up and arm formidable works on every available point. Owing, however, to various interruptions and difficulties, they were unable to open their fire for several days. In the mean time the Russians were not idle, taking advantage of the time thus allowed, they made unparalleled exertions—men, women, and children were compelled to assist the garrison—working night and day, without intermission, at the defences, so that fresh batteries and earthworks, solid and extensive, rose every day; in fact, most of the works which have caused the allies so much trouble and annoyance, were raised in that brief period.

The 17th of October, the first day's combined attack by sea and land, served to show that the enemy's resources had been much under-rated, and that a prolonged and fearful struggle must ensue. Fire was simultaneously opened from 128 pieces of artillery—75 English, 53 French—and continued during a great part of the day, also from the allied fleets, consisting of 28 line of battle ships, besides steamers and frigates, but without any marked results, beyond knocking down the embrasures of, and silencing one or two of the minor forts. The numerical strength of the allies was found insufficient, and their guns too few and too weak to attack even one side of the city; in fact, that they were totally unprepared for so gigantic an undertaking, whilst the enemy having free access to the

interior, by the road to Simpheropol being open, could constantly gain fresh accessions of strength.

The various works were now continued by the besiegers with increased activity, by night as well as day, with but little to vary the monotony of the siege, excepting now and then a nocturnal sortie from the city, which kept the advanced posts and pickets constantly on the alert, and were sometimes of a very sanguinary character. Incessant slaving in the trenches, exposed to the enemy's shot and to all sorts of weather, and outlying pickets five nights out of the seven, together with very scanty supplies of shelter, clothing, or food, began to tell fearfully on the armies. The British especially, suffered most severely from sickness and death, so that towards the end of October, they barely numbered 16,500 effective men out of 35,800, their original strength.

In the city new works were constantly being thrown up, and those injured were immediately repaired. Large detachments of troops were continually arriving, not only to act on the defensive, but also to take the field; eleven fresh battalions having crossed the Tehernaya and taken a position in the rear of the British toward Balaklava. On the 25th of October a most sanguinary engagement took place, which resulted in the total defeat of the Russians, but with great loss to the British, especially to the light brigade of cavalry, which was nearly annihilated. The following day an attack was made by about 8000 Russians, which was also most gallantly repulsed, as was also a similar assault on the right wing of the British, on the heights above Inkerman.

Matters now remained tolerably quiet until the 5th of November. The various works progressed but very slowly, for sickness prevailed to a frightful extent; the British infantry, already reduced below 15,000 effective men, were further dwindling away at the rate of four or five hundred per week, and nothing but the hope of soon commencing more active operations could have sustained the men under such severe trials and privations; indeed the position of the allied armies would have been more critical, but from the great security of the ground they occupied. On Sunday, the 5th of November, one of the most bloody battles was fought, and one of the most gallant defences was made, ever recorded in the annals of war. Under the cloak of a thick autumnal fog, the enemy commenced an attack on the right wing of the British, on the heights above the valley of Inkerman, and, before they were aware of their approach, were actually within their lines. For several hours they successfully repulsed the repeated assaults of the Russians, who were at least 60,000 strong, and although they numbered only 8000 men, held their position until the arrival of 5000 French decided the victory, and the enemy were forced to retreat, leaving dead, wounded, and prisoners on the field, a greater number than the whole force opposed to them.

After the Battle of Inkerman, engineers were set to work to fortify the camp with a complete line of entrenchments, covering the crest of the range of hills in the rear, which were from 600 to 1200 feet in height; the latter were scarped where required, and redans and other works thrown out, with redoubts at the most important and commanding points.

The weather, hitherto fine and sunny, now grew foggy, moist, and

cold, and severe frosts shortly followed. The Russian army retired into Sebastopol, leaving strong detachments in some of the neighbouring villages, and at the bridge crossing the Tchernaya; the works for a time were partially suspended, and but few events, beyond occasional sorties and repeated contests between the advanced posts, attended with a small loss on either side, occurred to break the monotony of the siege. Vast supplies of huts, warm clothing, and other comforts arrived from England, the health of the army improved, and with the exception of the inevitable toils, exposures, and dangers of war, the winter passed as comfortably as could well be expected.

The highest authority was quoted for the opinion that the Russian batteries would be silenced in a few hours, even the less sanguine gave but three days as the limit of the contest: eight months have passed, and the end is not yet attained. Since the return of open weather, the works have been carried forward with increased energy and perseverance, and with extraordinary labour, skill, and energy. In some parts, in spite of all opposition, they have been pushed to within three or four hundred yards of the enemy's trenches, and deadly contests between the working parties are of daily occurrence. New batteries have been erected, and armed with guns of a heavier calibre; a railroad has been made from Balaklava, by which immense supplies of projectiles have been transported to the front, and the combined armies, numbering at least 100,000 effective men, are in a state of good health and anxious for the assault; altogether the preparations are now on so vast and deadly a scale, that no reasonable doubt can be entertained of a decisive result.

The Russians, in the mean time, have received extraordinary supplies into the city, and have not only strengthened their old works, but have erected new; opposing battery to battery, and advancing so forward as to become, in some instances, the assaulting party. The siege has thus become a most singular operation of war, the common order of things being inverted; instead of the besieging army working up to the walls of the city by regular approaches, the besieged garrison throws out fresh works, which brings them closer to their invaders, and the space between the two antagonists is progressively narrowed, until they are in parts but a very few hundred yards from each other. The enemy is also in great strength on the Tchernaya and in the adjacent valleys, and has occupied and fortified all the heights from Karabalnaia to the head of the great Harbour; thus everything betokens a stern and most determined resistance, and the battle, whichever way it may terminate, will be a most fearful one.

On the 9th of May the bombardment recommenced, and continued for 16 days without intermission, when, from the exhaustion of both men and material, it was for a time suspended. The magnitude of attack is without parallel in military history, the British alone having fired during the first six days the immense amount of between 16,000 and 17,000 32 and 68-pounder shot, 7800 thirteen inch shells, and 4500 ten inch shells, making about 2200 tons of shot and 500 tons of powder. The French, being much stronger in artillery, will swell the gross amount to at least 6000 tons of shot and shell, and nearly 1600 tons of powder. Prince Gortschakoff says, in one of his despatches, that 20,000 projectiles

were thrown against the city on the 9th: to sustain such a fire for 16 consecutive days argues an abundance of resources, a solidity in the ordnance employed, and an endurance on the part of the men, beyond anything ever heard of, yet the result has not produced that permanent effect that might have been expected from a cannonade of such unexampled severity, constancy, and accuracy, assisted by the exertions of the fleet, some ships of which nightly poured their broadsides into the devoted city. Many of the enemy's guns have been dismounted and disabled, and some of their batteries abandoned or silenced, still such is the extraordinary energy and endurance of the Russians, that they mostly repair during the night the damage done in the day, and the works, to all appearance, remain nearly in the same state as at first. Many fierce encounters have taken place in the trenches and rifle pits, in which the allies have always been victorious, and their works have steadily advanced, new parallels having been opened, fresh batteries erected, and sap and mine carried much nearer the defences, but to the present time no assault has been attempted.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE.

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### No. 3.—*Cape Chersonesus.*

Cape Parthenium of the Greeks, the most westernly point of the Crimea; it is about five miles from Sebastopol, and about 300 miles from Constantinople, to which place it is the nearest point in the Russian dominions. On the low promontory stands a lighthouse 116 feet above the level of the sea, the light from which may be seen at the distance of 16 miles. Midway between Cape Chersonesus and Balaklava is Cape St. George (Cape Fiorente of the Genoese), a majestic headland on which stood the celebrated temple of Diana Tauripolitana. The whole of this coast was named inhospitable, from the horrid custom the inhabitants had of sacrificing every stranger whom chance or foul weather led thither; the well-known history of Orestes and his sister Iphigenia, the high priestess of the temple of Diana, would alone render the site celebrated. A small monastery dedicated to St. George gives its present name to the cape; it is beautifully situated on a terrace amongst the rocks, 900 feet above the level of the sea. Beyond the cliffs spread the vast expanse of the Black Sea, with the Allied fleets sailing about or at anchor. The Axenas or inhospitable, or the Euxinos or hospitable sea of the Greeks, the Pontus of the Romans, and the Black Sea of the Turks, who have many black seas and rivers, giving that name indiscriminately to all waters of difficult or dangerous navigation, is larger than the Baltic, but smaller than the North Sea. It is not affected by tides, but is subject to terrific storms from the north. One of the worst ever known occurred between the 13th and 16th of October, 1854, during which the fleets suffered most severely, every vessel being more or less damaged, and the magnificent steam ship the *Prince*, the *Sea Nymph*, and many transports and other ships, French and English, having been totally lost.

### No. 5.—*Kamiesch Bay,*

One of the deep narrow recesses of Cape Chersonesus, more spacious and convenient than Balaklava, but very much exposed to the north wind; the depth of water is from twelve fathoms at the entrance to four at the upper end. The French landed a portion of their siege material here, and have erected quays and storehouses, and formed a good road, connecting it with their camp.

### No. 8.—*Streletskaia Bay,*

A considerable inlet of the sea, not so large as Kamiesch Bay, but more immediately in the camp of the French, who here landed a great portion of their siege material, and continue to receive most of their supplies into the depôt here constructed. The place cannot be easily molested by the enemy, owing to the absence of hills in the neighbourhood, and its being protected by war ships that lie close into the shore.

### No. 11.—*Chersonesus Bay.*

On this bay and on the promontory west of Quarantine Harbour stood a great portion of the ancient city of Chersonesus, founded 600 years before the Christian era by Greek colonists from the city of Heraclea, in Bythinia, in conjunction with the Delians. It was one of the most flourishing cities of Eastern Europe, and extended

over an area of thirty miles; the inhabitants were independent, but, annoyed by the invasions of the Scythians, sought the protection of Mithridates. In the time of the Romans this part of the Crimea formed an independent state, and in the reign of Dioclesian they assisted the Roman arms against the Sarmatians, and afterwards furnished troops to Constantine the Great against the Goths on the Danube. In 835 the city became the seat of a Greek metropolitan, and it was here in the church of St. Basil, since named St. Vladimar, that Vladimar the first Christian Grand Duke of Russia was baptised in 988, and from hence, under his direction, Greek christianity was introduced into Russia.

At no very distant date vast and magnificent ruins of the ancient city remained, but Russian vandalism soon swept them away for building materials, or mutilated them through sheer wantonness. The Emperor Alexander, who visited them in 1818, strictly enjoined the preservation of what then remained, but it was too late, all of any value was gone, and mere fragments of stone and marble are now strewn over the country. The French have erected a strong work, called the Star Battery, at the church.

### *No. 13.—Quarantine Harbour,*

A considerable bay outside of the Great Harbour. It is defended by a strong fort of the same name, mounting 51 large guns, also by a battery and numerous earthworks. The extreme left of the French attack being in this position, it has been the scene of many gallant assaults, sorties, and deadly engagements. In the attack of the 17th of October, the fort was much injured, and completely silenced by the fire from the shipping.

### *No. 15.—Fort Alexander,*

A large and strong fort, defending the entrance to the harbour on the southern side. It stands on a small cape, projecting some distance into the water, and mounts 84 guns of large calibre, in two tiers.

### *No. 16.—Fort Constantine,*

A very strong fort at the entrance to the harbour on the northern side. It stands on a projecting cape, and is built of a fine sound white limestone, which becomes very hard by exposure, and, being very durable, is used for all the large forts round Sebastopol. Fort Constantine is built on the casemate principle, and is mounted with 104 guns in three tiers, capable of throwing shells or solid 68 pound shots; it is also furnished with the necessary furnaces for heating shot red hot. A shallow shoal with scarcely two fathoms of water surrounds the point, so that vessels of war cannot approach nearer than 600 yards. On the 17th of October it was assaulted by the *Agamemnon*, who is said to have fired from one broadside 2700 shot and shells against it without producing any visible result.

### *No. 17.—Wasp Fort,*

A small fort on a commanding elevation northward from the entrance to the great harbour. It has been but recently erected, and is surrounded by considerable earthworks. It mounts 8 guns. Near the Wasp Fort is the Telegraph Battery, mounting 28 guns.

### *No. 19.—Sebastopol,*

“The Imperial City,” the *Ctanus* of the ancients, as described by Strabo, and the *Aktiar*, or *White City* of the Turks. It is situated on the south-west coast of the Crimea, near its southern extremity, in such a position that it is, as it were, in the very centre of the Black Sea, at almost equal distances from the Danube and Sinope, and equally commanding the Bosphorus and Trebizonde. History it has none, having been almost unknown until it was chosen by the great Catherine, in 1786, as a site whereon to erect a fortress and arsenal, to protect the vast naval force which should establish the dominion of Russia over the Black Sea and its surrounding coasts; and it would perhaps be impossible to find a point more favorable for the purpose.



Admirably adapted by nature, on the side towards the sea, for the formation of a strong position, the natural advantages have been improved by all that engineering and skill could suggest, regardless of expense; so that it has become one of the most strongly fortified places that can well be imagined.

The town is built on a hill of chalk, which gradually rises from the water's edge in a series of platforms or steppes, to the height of 240 feet; its greatest length being somewhat more than a mile, and its width being about three-quarters of a mile. The inner harbour runs into the neck of the land on which it stands, and divides the larger and best portion of the city from the docks, naval arsenal, military hospital, barracks, storhouses, and a large suburb called Karabalpaia, the Wapping of Sebastopol, in which the sailors and artisans connected with the docks reside. The interior of the city, although it does not quite correspond with the brilliant appearance it makes from a distance, is handsome and regular; the streets are wide, especially that named after Catherine, in which some of the best buildings are situated; they run in nearly parallel lines from north to south, and are intersected at right angles by others from east to west. Amongst the most prominent public buildings may be enumerated the Cathedral, a handsome edifice, with high towering spires; the Armenian Church of St. Paul, a copy of the Temple of Theseus, at Athens; a basilica, surrounded by Doric columns, extremely simple, neither externally overloaded with ornament, nor internally decorated with bad or indifferent pictures, like most of the Russian places of worship; and the public library and reading rooms, erected by the late Emperor, for the naval and military officers, a conspicuous and handsome building of Grecian architecture, standing on a high point; the large club house, opera house, and several of the official buildings are also handsome erections. The house is also scrupulously preserved in which Catherine stayed during her short residence here, from which she was obliged to retire precipitately, in order to escape the designs of some fanatical Tartars, who had conspired together to assassinate her. The houses are generally large, and well built of the white stone of the country, intermixed with the remains of antiquity, plundered from the ruins of many ancient cities of the vicinity, entablatures, capitals, and other sculptures being built into many of the walls; altogether they have a substantial and clean appearance, their cheerful aspect being much increased by the trees and vines planted in front of them: many are now without roofs or windows the walls shattered and broken, and altogether become tenantless, from the countless missiles thrown amongst them. South of the city was a pleasant boulevard and many gardens, whence the inhabitants enjoyed a fine view of the harbour, opposite coast, and the sea; and near the hospital and barracks was a fine grove of oaks: both however, have been destroyed by the erection of batteries.

The inhabitants generally consisted of half-pay officers, and persons connected with, the two services, and a few shopkeepers, workmen and fishermen, usually numbering from 15,000 to 20,000 persons; and the garrison and navy, before the war, might amount to about 20,000 more: the garrison alone is said, at the present time, to exceed 100,000 men. Commerce scarcely exists; indeed, the only articles imported are those required for materials of war or provisions for the residents. A few years back all the Jews were expelled by law; but a few have crept in again—for what would a sea-port be without them? the remaining permanent residents are Russians, all others being rigorously excluded.

Sebastopol is by no means a healthy place, especially in the summer months, when it is said there are seldom less than a thousand persons in the hospital. Ophthalmia and cataract are also very prevalent.

Before the arrival of the Allies the city was very badly defended on the south, or land side. From the neighbourhood of Fort Alexander, a crenelated wall for musketry, ran nearly a mile to the top of a steep hill, terminating in a large round fort, mounting 20 guns; from thence the wall was continued to the head of the inner harbour. A strong redan wall also surrounded the port and arsenal, terminating at Malakhoff Tower. These works have been repaired, enlarged, and strengthened, and the barracks fortified, and flanked by strong works. The Flagstaff Battery and Garden Battery have been erected and armed; also strong works thrown out to cover the ground between the wall and the Quarantine Harbour, as well as every description of defences advanced in all directions. The front attacked being above three miles in extent, the space at the disposal of the garrison enables them to reply with at least as many guns as the besiegers can bring against them; and it is said that altogether there are not less than 1000 pieces displayed on this side.

*No. 20.—Flagstaff Battery.*

The redoubtable and so often mentioned Flagstaff Battery is a very strong work standing on an elevation, and completely commanding the French line of approaches. At the commencement of the war it mounted about 40 guns in two tiers, it now presents at least 150, and on the summit are several large mortars. This being one of the principal defences of the city, the most strenuous endeavours have been made either to take or demolish it, but as yet without success, the enemy having always been able to frustrate the most vigorous assaults, and to repair the most extensive damage. Three considerable mines were exploded by the French under the works on the 15th of April, but without any very serious damage being effected.

*No. 21.—Sievernaia Battery,*

A large and very strong work situated at Port Sievernaia, or the north ravine; it mounts 120 large guns, casemated. It is sometimes mentioned as Fort Catherine. The Port is small, with about two-and-a-half fathoms of water.

*No. 22.—Star Fort,*

A large polygonic fort occupying an elevated crest behind Port Sievernaia. Since the commencement of the war it has been much strengthened, and batteries have been erected round the brow of the crest; an entrenched camp capable of containing 60,000 men has also been formed under its protection.

*No. 23.—Fort Nicholas,*

The largest of the forts. It stands on a low promontory between the entrance to the inner harbour and Artillery Bay, which it equally defends, and is itself surrounded by a dangerous reef of rocks. It mounts 192 guns in three tiers.

*No. 24.—Fort St. Paul,*

A strong work on the eastern side of the entrance to the inner harbour; it stands on a small cape surrounded by rocks, and mounts 80 guns in three tiers.

*No. 25.—Military Harbour.*

The inner, or Military Harbour, is the largest of the four bays. It runs in a southerly direction nearly two miles, its average width being 400 yards. The depth of water at the entrance is eight fathoms, at its farthest extremity four fathoms, so that ships of the largest size can lie close to the quays, with all their stores on board—and it is also land locked on every side. Ships of war only are allowed to enter, and it is here that the Black Sea Fleet is safely moored during the winter, and vast stores of material of all kinds are kept in the arsenal and numerous storehouses.

It was from this bay the Russian ship of war *The Twelve Apostles*, did so much damage by throwing shot and shells into the English and French batteries, until she was compelled to retire by the fire of an English battery, at the head of the ravine leading down to the harbour.

The telegraph, or semaphore, at the head of the harbour, is the centre of the telegraphic communication with the whole of the Crimea, and by way of Kherson, on the main land, with St. Petersburg, to which place, in clear weather, a despatch can be forwarded in nine hours.

In a small harbour, on the eastern side of the Military Harbour, are the fine docks, projected in 1832, and constructed, under great engineering difficulties, by Col. Upton, an Englishman, and pupil of the celebrated Telford. They are in many respects perfect, and can scarcely be matched in Europe for convenience. They consist of a vast fitting basin, into which open a series of five docks, each capable of holding two ships; one is for men-of-war of the largest size, two for seventy-fours, and two for frigates. As there is no tide, the lock principle has been adopted, and the ships are raised by a series of three locks, each with a rise of 10 feet, so that the water in

the docks is 30 feet above that in the basin, and each can be separately laid dry by means of subterranean channels. The masonry is all most beautifully finished, much granite having been brought from a great distance for the purpose. The machinery is all British, and the sluices alone are said to have cost £34,875. To supply water for the outer basin, a fine canal and aqueduct was formed, by which it is brought from the village of Tchernana, a distance of eleven miles, where it has an elevation of 62 feet. The watercourse is 10 feet in width, and passing over difficult ground, there was a necessity for a considerable embankment, three aqueducts, and two tunnels; one of the latter, at the hill of Inkerman, is cut entirely through the freestone rock, at which eighty sailors are said to have worked night and day for fifteen months: it is about 900 feet in length. There are two vast reservoirs to provide against the failure of the springs in hot weather, also a large filter, from which pipes are carried to the quays, so that ships are supplied with water with great facility.

In order to make room for the dock, it was necessary to cut away a considerable portion of the hill: on the top of the perpendicular wall, thus formed, stands a massive pile of stone buildings, used for the sailors' home in winter.

### *No. 26.—Barrack Battery,*

Named after a long line of barracks that stand immediately behind it, in the angle of the outer and inner harbours. This was one of the new works thrown up simultaneously with the offensive works of the Allies; it mounts many large guns, which command the left of the British, and the right of the French attacks.

### *No. 28.—Great Harbour,*

A fine bay, running in a south-easterly direction for nearly four miles. At its entrance it is 1050 yards across; opposite the city, about 50 yards wider; from whence it gradually diminishes to about 400 yards at the upper end, where it receives the waters of the Tchernaya, or Black River. The average depth is about eight fathoms, and the bottom is mud in the centre, with gravel at the sides. The entrance is protected by four very strong forts, two on each side, built on the casemate principle, three having three tiers of guns each, the fourth only two, altogether mounting 500 guns, 64 pounders. On the south side, the harbour is further defended by six principal fortresses and batteries, mounting from 50 to 190 guns each; and on the north side by four, having from 18 to 120 guns each; besides which, there are several small batteries, all of which were designed by a French Officer of Engineers. The two outer forts are named Constantine and Alexander; the two next, Nicholas and Catherine. From these a most fearful cross-fire can be maintained on anything attempting to enter, but they are nearly useless on the land side, being commanded by higher ground in the rear. As a farther protection, Prince Menschikoff, immediately after the Battle of the Alma, caused eight ships of the line to be sunk, in two rows, between the forts, where the harbour is not more than 700 yards in width, the second row covering the interstices of the first in such a way that the entrance is completely barred to ships of war, although steamers might make their way through; had the passage remained open, the fleet might have entered, and have supported the land attack with good effect. In February, three or four more ships were sunk, as far within as the former were without the bar; so that the harbour is now defended by two barriers of booms and two of sunken ships.

The Harbour of Sebastopol owes its excellence entirely to nature, which has, without the aid of art, provided a safe and most magnificent roadstead, with ramifications, forming so many secure basins, admirably adapted to the wants of a great naval station. Northward it is bounded by a very high coast; on the south, the banks, although tolerably precipitous, are not so high; on this side, four small creeks or bays run into the tongue of land on which the city stands: the first, near the entrance, is the mercantile harbour, or Artillery Bay, into which merchant vessels only are permitted to enter; the second and third are the military harbours, in which are situated the splendid docks, and the last is called the Careening Bay.

### *No. 30.—Careening Bay,*

A considerable creek, with a depth of water of between four and five fathoms, used for the repair of merchant vessels. It is defended by a battery of heavy guns. Two

large war steamers anchored in this bay completely commanded the British advanced works, and occasioned considerable loss and annoyance by their fire, especially on the 22nd and 23rd of February. A battery built by the French, but armed and manned by the English, was pushed forward so as to command the bay, and having fired about 60 rounds of shot, 20 of which were red hot, compelled one of the ships to shift her position, the other, named the *Grommonosetz*, after receiving eight shots went down.

### *No. 31.—Malakhoff Tower,*

A tower of considerable dimensions, armed with heavy guns, forming the key of the whole line of the southern defences. At the commencement of the siege it mounted only 25 guns, but it was speedily surrounded by substantial earthworks heavily armed. In the attack of the 17th of October, the fire of the British against this tower was very effective; the guns were soon dismantled and its surface deeply scarred by shot from heavy 68 pound guns in the naval battery on the right, practising at a range of more than 2000 yards. The tower was however speedily repaired and strengthened, and being a position of very considerable importance, various new works have been added; two strong square redoubts, called the *Selinghinsk* and *Volynhia* Redoubts, were constructed in advance of the left flank of the fortifications, upon the incline of *Mount Sapoune*, on the right side of *Careening Bay*, also a strong redoubt on the *Mamelon*, and trenches, rifle pits and other works have been thrown forward in all direction. Many fierce contests for the interruption, possession, or destruction of these works have taken place, and furious attacks made by both the French and the English; nevertheless, they have steadily progressed, and have occasioned much loss and annoyance to the Allies. The tower and other works is now armed with at least 70 guns of large calibre.

### *No. 32.—Redan Battery,*

A very large and formidable work, composed of two faces, meeting in a salient angle, connected by a wall and a strong line of works with the *Barrack Battery* on the one hand, and the *Malakhoff Tower* on the other. At the commencement of the war it mounted 45 guns—it has now nearly 300 pieces of heavy ordnance. The *Redan* is of immense value, whilst the *Malakhoff Tower* remains intact; but that, once destroyed, will be of little or no use for defence. As, together, they protect the rear of the town and harbour, and cover the shipping, the principal operations of the British have been directed against them, but as yet, so great is their strength, with but little effect. In the attack of the 17th of November, 1854, a large magazine in the *Redan* was fired by a British shell, and the explosion committed such devastation, that all the guns but three were for a time silenced.

### *No. 34.—Chapman's Battery,*

On *Green Hill*, so named from the engineer under whose direction most of the works were constructed. It is the principal attack of the British, the fire of the various batteries connected with it commanding the left of the *Barrack*, *Road*, and *Garden Batteries*, the whole of the *Redan*, and the *Careening Battery*. On the recommencement of the siege on the 9th of April, 1855, the strength of the various works was as follows. No. 1, ten 24-pounders, and two 8-inch guns; No. 2 (worked by sailors), eight 32-pounders, and two 8-inch guns; No. 3 (worked by sailors), eight 24-pounders; No. 4, two 32-pounders, four 24-pounders, two 8-inch, and one 10-inch guns; No. 5 (worked by sailors), one 10-inch, and one 8-inch guns; No. 6, or *Pickett House Battery*, two 32-pounders, one 24-pounder, and three 10-inch mortars; No. 7, six 32-pounders; No. 8, six 32-pounders, and two 8-inch guns; also ten 13 inch and four 10-inch mortars are in various positions to bombard the more distant works. The trenches, parallels, and other approaches, both from this and *Gordon's Battery*, have been pushed forward, close to the *Redan* fort and wall.

### *No. 35.—Gordon's Battery,*

On *Frenchman's Hill*, continues the strong line of attack to the right, the fire of the numerous guns and mortars being equally directed against the *Redan* and the *Malakhoff Tower*. *Gordon's* attack, or 21-gun battery, as it was originally termed

consists of 13 batteries. No. 1 mounting one 24 and one 68 pounder; No. 2, thirteen 10-inch mortars; No. 3, one 68, two 24, and two 32-pounders; No. 4, six 32, and one 68-pounder; No. 5, seven 32, one 68, and one 24-pounder, and one 8-inch gun; No. 6, one 13-inch and two 10-inch mortars; No. 7, two 10-inch mortars; No. 8, three 10-inch mortars; No. 9, eight 8-inch guns; No. 10, three 13-inch mortars; No. 11, three 13-inch mortars; No. 12, four mortars; and No. 13, four large guns.

### *No. 36.—Lancaster Guns.*

Several of these formidable pieces of artillery are placed in different positions, at 1300, 1500 and 2000 yards from the Russian works, and their fire has occasionally been very effective. Their report is very different from that of other guns, being a sharp crack, similar to that of a rifle on a large scale, and the ball rushes through the air with a noise and regular beat, precisely like the passage of a rapid railway express train at a few yards distance. This peculiarity at first caused shouts of laughter from the men, who thenceforward named them express trains.

### *No. 37.—Mamelon Hill,*

Known as Gordon's Hill, but now called the Mamelon, a name given it by the French. The hill is in the form of a truncated cone, and is nearly as high as that on which the Malakhoff Tower stands. The Russians, anticipating the advance of the French on the right, took possession of the hill on the 11th of March, and commenced the formation of the strong battery called Kamschatka, which, with the redoubts on the Sapoune Hill, have been so troublesome, and completely enfilade any advance on the Malakhoff Tower. Many fierce assaults have been made to dislodge the enemy from this position, and some deadly encounters have taken place for the possession of the ambuscades and rifle pits in the vicinity, but as yet without any effective result.

### *No. 38.—Navy Baking House,*

A very large building, situated at the end of a small ravine called Suokharnaia Balka, or Biscuit Ravine. The bread for the army and the fleet is made here, and judging by what has been found on the dead, and prisoners, the color is very dark, and the quality by no means good.

### *No. 39.—Inkerman West Light,*

Situated on an elevation 413 feet above the level of the sea, and visible at a distance of 28 miles.

### *No. 40.—Inkerman,*

For ages a site of peculiar interest. In early days it formed a little principality dependant on the Lower Empire, and was called Theodorus, but in 1475 it was taken by Mohammed II., when it was named by the Turks In-Kerman, Cavern Fortress. On both sides of the valley the faces of the cliffs are completely dotted with excavated grottos of various shapes and sizes, which have evidently been applied to different purposes by different possessors. The researches of de Montpéroux fully establish the fact, that they date from the time of the Tauro Scythians, and that they were used as places of refuge and security by the persecuted early Christians in the time of Justinian, for which purpose they were admirably adapted; amongst them are two much larger than the rest, they show evident marks of having been used for religious purposes, and in several are found scraps of fresco painting, fragments of sarcophagi, &c. On the crest of the hill on the left are some ruins of walls, the sole remains of a large castle that formerly crowned the heights, said to have been erected by Diophantes, general to Mithridates Eparator, King of Pontus, who called it after his sovereign Eupatorium, a name since transferred to a fortified town on the Bay of Kalamita.

The Tchernaya or Black River runs between the hills through a fertile valley, which Dr. Clarke calls, perhaps the most beautiful valley in Europe, and the canal after passing through a tunnel in the hills was conveyed across the valley by an aqueduct of many graceful arches, now partially destroyed by the Allies, to the docks.

Inkerman has now acquired an imperishable celebrity as the scene of one of the bloodiest struggles ever witnessed since war first cursed the earth. The extreme right of the British on the heights above the valley of the Tehernaya was badly defended, and Prince Menshikoff determined by a sudden attack, with an overwhelming force, to carry the position and "drive the enemy into the sea." During the night of the 4th of November, 1854, in a thick fog, he took possession of the heights of Inkerman, from which early on the 5th a numerous artillery opened on the British camp, whilst dense masses of infantry ascended the hill, and were in the midst of the entrenchments before their approach was even suspected. The British had only a force of 8000 men, the Russians numbered at least 60,000, and were supported by artillery vastly superior both in number and calibre to any opposed to them, yet for five hours did they hold their ground with indomitable resolution and unmistakable courage, until the arrival of General Bosquet with 6000 French decided the victory in their favour, the enemy leaving on the field killed, wounded, and prisoners, a greater number than the whole Allied force brought against them. The triumph of such a handful of men, wearied, jaded, and fasting, many just returned from toiling in the trenches, over the dense legions of the enemy, covers them with imperishable renown. The battle was mostly fought in obscurity, the army assailed could neither see the number of their assailants, the position they had taken, nor the points at which they were advancing; whilst the Russians were thoroughly acquainted with the locality, knew precisely the weak points, and were able to plant their artillery, under the cover of darkness, in the most eligible and commanding positions, and to advance in the fog to the very threshold of the camp; moreover, they were encouraged by the presence of two of the Emperor's sons; they had been blessed by their priests, and were drunk with religious enthusiasm, raki, and the promise of immense plunder.

#### *No. 41.—Inkerman East Light.*

The east or upper light stands 613 feet above the level of the sea, and may be seen from a distance of 33 miles. The lights mark the entrance to the great harbour of Sebastopol, they are about three miles apart, and the upper ought to be hidden from view by the lower, as vessels enter from the Black Sea. From its great elevation the upper light commands the greater part of the camp, so that every movement is immediately seen, and notice given by means of signals to the lower light, and thence to the city and semaphore.

#### *No. 46.—The British Camp.*

The vast plain or plateau on which the Allied Armies are encamped is entirely bounded on the east by a deep valley, extending from the inner end of the Great Harbour to the entrance into Balaklava. A steep range of cliffs rise abruptly from the valley in an unbroken line throughout the whole distance, excepting at the point where the Woronzoff road crosses, which is easily defensible. These cliffs have been fortified with earthworks, redoubts, &c., and mounted with guns, so that the position is one of great strength—on this side, at least, nearly impregnable. Within this line of fortifications, with a slightly rising ground in front, and beyond the range of the guns of the city, is the British Camp, placed in comparative safety. From this, the highest portion, the plain gradually slopes towards Sebastopol, and subsides into the low land that forms the line of coast between it and the extreme point of land at Cape Chersonesus. On this low ground, nearly on a level with the city, is placed the French Camp. The plain is cleft by five deep ravines, descending in courses more or less winding, to the harbour and the sea, which have been of great service during the siege operations, forming natural and well protected covered ways to the trenches. The principal one descends from near where the spectator stands to the head of the inner harbour, and divides the works of the British from those of the French: it will therefore be seen, that the former command the city from a considerable elevation, whilst those of the latter are, for the most part, nearly on a level with the Russian defences.

The British camp occupies a considerable space, the tents or huts, of which there are now a considerable number, being pitched in lines, about 8 yards asunder, and double that distance from those in front or behind, in order to make room for the cooking fires, &c. To the rear, and laterally more distant from each other, are the tents of the generals, field officers and staff; behind these again are the hospital

marquees, bullock waggons, ambulances, picketed horses, &c. Considerable intervals separate the different regiments, and much longer the several divisions. The numerous white, bell-shaped red-tipped tents of the soldiers have a pretty appearance seen from a distance.

#### No. 48.—*Tchadir Dagh,*

The tent or table mountain, the culminating point of the Crimea, the Trapezus of Strabo. It rises to the height of more than 5000 feet above the sea, and is composed of grey friable lime-stone, perforated with many grottos and caverns, in some of which masses of ice remain from winter to winter. The summit, an uneven platform, is attained with little difficulty, and commands a magnificent view of the peninsula. When the condensed vapours gather round the top in thick clouds, the Tartars, who have learned from experience the usual result, augur rain, saying the Tchadir Dagh has put on his night-cap. Spurs from the mountain run westward to the sea, broken by many ravines which embosom fertilizing streams, and the chain is continued eastward, with occasional breaks, to the extreme point of the peninsula, occasionally attaining a great height, the summits forming extensive flats or mountain table lands, the most lofty being covered with snow from the end of October to the close of May, which is then replaced by rich grass, and the slopes and valleys are well covered with timber and fruit trees.

#### No. 58.—*Balaklava,*

The Portus Symbolorum of Strabo, and the Bella-chiava of the Genoese. It is about ten miles from Sebastopol, and is the base of the British operations, and the point for the supply of troops and munitions of war. It is to its harbour alone that the place owes its existence, it being the only good one on the almost unbroken extent of the southern coast of the Crimea. Although small the water is deep, there is no sand bank at its mouth, and the rocks on either side rise to a very considerable height, so that ships lie in perfect safety whatever the weather may be; indeed, the place is so strong, that had the Russians availed themselves of its capabilities, it would have been almost impossible to have dislodged them. The little town cannot be seen, it stands about three hundred yards from the harbour, on a narrow strip of shore about a quarter of a mile in length, and consists of two small churches and a number of mean houses, many of which have recently been removed for the purpose of forming a railway from the port to the advanced positions, which is now fast approaching completion, and will be of vast importance to the army. The town was inhabited by Tartars until the close of the last century, when 8000 expatriated emigrants from the Grecian Archipelago implicated in Lambro Kanzonis' unsuccessful conspiracy, established themselves on the very same spot where 2000 years previously their Milesian countrymen in Asia Minor had also settled, and founded the colony of Symbolum. On the 9th of October all the Greek male population were commanded by Lord Raglan to quit the place within three hours, in consequence of a plot having been discovered, that during a sortie from Sebastopol they were to set fire to the town and shipping. On the heights above the port are the ruins of a once magnificent fortress built by the Genoese.

When the British army advanced to the heights the defences of Balaklava were confided to Sir Colin Campbell, who with the 93rd Highlanders encamped at the entrance of the valley; 1,500 marines and sailors occupied the heights above the town, and 3000 Turkish troops, chiefly Tunisians, held some redoubts, and occupied other positions in the immediate vicinity. On the 25th of October the Russians made a desperate attempt to regain the place, advancing with a strong body of Cossacks, and at least 30,000 infantry to the attack. The Turks were speedily overpowered, and lost two of their redoubts, but the Scotch most gallantly and effectively maintained their ground, until the arrival of other troops to their support. At the close of this action the fatal charge of three regiments of light cavalry, under the command of Lord Cardigan, was made. The following day another attack by the Russians was equally unsuccessful.







