

The Oregon Argus.

L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1855.

Agents for the Argus.

J. R. McBRIDE, Lafayette.
C. A. REED, Salem.
MORGAN RUDOLPH, Sublimity.
W. BARLOW, Molalla.
H. C. RAYMOND, Forest Grove.
DR. DAVIS, Bloomington.
FRANK W. BROWN, Corvallis.
AMOS HARVEY, Plum Valley.
SOLOMON ALLEN, Amity.
J. E. LYLE, Dallas.
JOHN MCKINNEY, Calapooia.
REV. WILSON BLAIN, Union Point.
L. A. RICE, Jacksonville.
H. HARRIS, Cincinnati.
JAMES SNELLING, Yreka, Cal.
JNO. B. FRESTON, Will Co. Ill.
R. A. N. PHELPS, Gatesburg, Ill.

A Short Tour.

We expect to leave for Polk County the first of the coming week, to attend the celebration on the 4th at Bethel. We expect to visit Linn, Marion, and perhaps several other counties, before our return, and call on as many of our old friends as possible. We shall probably be absent some three weeks, during which time our paper will be under the management of Mr. CRAIG, and our "better half."

To Correspondents.

We have a perfect budget of contributions on hand, most of which are crowded out this week. We thought surely we could have found room for "Viola's" sweet but plaintive song, but, to our consideration, our type has just informed us that it must "lie over."

Arrival of the Mail.

The P. M. S. S. Columbia reached Portland on last Monday morning, bringing highly interesting news from the east, particularly from the seat of war in Kansas. We have clipped our news this week from our exchanges, instead of condensing it ourselves. We have been quite unwell during this week, which will account for our lack of editorial matter.

Obligations.

We are under obligations to Wells, Fargo & Co., also to J. W. Sullivan, James O'Neill and Mr. McCormick, for favors. They have all done well, but Sullivan came out ahead of the other two nags a little, by taking Harper's splendid Magazine as an extra impetus in the case.

We are glad to see that our old friend O'Neill has not yet forgotten us.

Emigration East of the Cascades.

We learn that the recent treaty which has been made with the tribes in Middle Oregon, by which vast tracts of country lying between the Cascade and Blue Mountains have been purchased, has been the means of creating considerable talk among our settlers, about the practicability of emigrating to that country. It affords a fine opening for stock raisers. But we would just suggest to those who have already enjoyed the benefit of the donation law in this country, that when Congress comes to make a disposition of the land in that country, it ought to, and probably will, become the property either by donation or pre-emption of other people than such old Oregonians.

Who wants Books?

Do not fail to look over the list of books in the advertisement of Frank Holland. It contains many exceedingly valuable works, which have hitherto been much sought after in this country.

Daguerotyping.

All those who want to get a perfect likeness of their own pretty selves, will be waited on by calling at the room of Mr. Joseph Buchel, where this experienced artist will be constantly found through the summer, ready to attend to all calls, and able to give entire satisfaction to the most fastidious.

Oysters.

We understand that there is a small schooner in from Shoal Water Bay, loaded with oysters, which have been sold out at Portland for three dollars per bushel. Our Oregon oysters are not more than half as large as those on the Atlantic coast. This fresh importation however shows that the experiments at cultivating them on Shoal Water Bay, have been attended with some considerable success.

Going to the Mines.

We notice quite a number of pack trains are leaving for the new mines, consisting principally of half-breeds and French.

A Shaking Among the Dry Bones.

Mr. Rudolph's Sublimity, Marion county, has written us, that there has been quite an interest awakened in that section upon the subject of religion.

Rev. Messrs. Kenoyer and Connor are holding a protracted meeting in that vicinity. Sixteen persons had been added to the church at the date of this communication, and the work was still going on.

For the Argus.

MA. EYRON.—We are of opinion that the time has come when Oregon can be materially benefited through the influence of a properly organized Territorial "Teacher's Association." In accordance with this view, as a proper preparatory step, we most respectfully suggest that a convention of County School Superintendents, Teachers, and Friends of Education, be called and convened at some convenient place—say at Salem—some time in August or September next.

The prosperity of our young and growing Territory depends upon the fruits of our Common School System. Awake! then, friends of Education, encourage this laudable, highly important, salutary movement. Speak out, Teachers, and enter spiritedly and earnestly into the work.

CLACK'S CO. SUPPLY, TEACHERS, & OTHERS.
Oregon City, June 25th, 1855.

Flora's Festival Tickets for sale at the Stores of Dr. Shibley and Mr. Pope.

"Clack's" will appear next week.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The Bombardment of Sebastopol—The Hero of the Russians—Terrible Battles, &c. &c.

[From the London Chronicle, May 5.]
The cessation of the bombardment of Sebastopol has not yet been officially announced, although the private communications received from the seat of war unite in declaring that the fire of the allies had been almost totally suspended. This result has been either produced by the exhaustion of the supplies of ammunition possessed by the besiegers, or, as we believe, from a motive of policy on the part of the allied commanders. The force at their disposal is recognized as being too weak to incur the fearful loss of life that an assault upon the Russian positions would necessarily occasion. That operation has therefore wisely been deferred until the arrival of the Sardinian contingent and of the large French reinforcements now on their way to the East shall have insured its success, either by strengthening the allied force before Sebastopol, or by creating a diversion on some other point of the Crimea.

The French force at present encamped at Maslak, on the Bosphorus, with the divisions and Toulon in that direction, will, ere long, muster a strength of 35,000 bayonets, in addition to a fine force of cavalry. To this army may be added 15,000 Sardinians, and 7,000 English troops now on their way to the scene of action, and thus, with 8,000 Turks, that form part of the garrison at Constantinople, an Allied army little short of 70,000 strong will be concentrated before three weeks have elapsed, ready to menace the rear or flank of the Russian position in the south of the Crimea. It is evident, as the assault upon Sebastopol has been either abandoned or deferred, that a continuation of the bombardment, without any defined result, would have merely exhausted the stock of ammunition, or weakened the allied cannons, the co-operation of which will be required.

It is gradually becoming more certain that the ultimate success of the allies, though it may be facilitated by the efforts of the engineers, will be conquered by the Minie rifle and the bayonet, and by dint of sheer hard fighting. The present position occupied by the allies, though admirable for defense, having been rendered impregnable by a wonderful network of redoubts and breastworks—is most unfortunate when we consider that offensive operations must speedily be adopted. Then will become apparent the utter hopelessness of taking the field in the direction of the Chernaya, without encountering unconquerable difficulties in the shape of the formidable lines of fortification constructed by the enemy on that point. On every available position to the south of Mackenzie farm have field works been thrown up by our indefatigable adversary, in anticipation of another flank march.

Every eminence is crowned with redoubts, and should the Allies attempt to force the heights of the Chernaya, they will encounter positions to which that of Alma was weak in comparison. The hilly nature of the surrounding country is adverse to the Allies, whilst one road alone exists—that which was followed in the famous flank march—by which our armies can advance and completely invest the town of Sebastopol. That road, even when undefended by the Russians, offered great obstacles to the progress of our troops in the march to Balaklava, and now that science has completed what nature had commenced, and that a numerous army bars its passage, we firmly believe that any attempt to advance in that direction would not only be ill-advised, but would terminate in disaster.

This circumstance is only too well known by the allied commanders that we need not fear any operations in that quarter, but at home a feeling is prevalent that to advance in that direction is the duty of the British and French generals, and the insurmountable obstacles that render such a step impossible are either ignored or forgotten.

There are, however, other points on which the energies of the allies may be directed with less danger and certain chances of success. The immediate result, and in fact the aim, of an advance in the field, directed by the allies, would be to engage a general battle, and it would consequently be necessary to select the most unfavorable position possessed by the enemy. To advance on the Chernaya would be to reverse this order of things and encounter the foe under the worst possible auspices. It, therefore, appears evident, that from some distant point must the attack of the allies be directed.—To disembark the French army of reserve, with the Sardinian contingent and a British division, at Eupatoria, and to advance on Bakschi Serai, is feasible. A march along the coast in the direction of the Alma and the Kalcha would be inadvisable, for these naturally strong positions have doubtless been fortified by the enemy. It may be maintained that operations conducted with energy, against Perekop and the northern portions of the Crimean peninsula would result to the best advantage of the allies.

The arrival of reinforcements on a large scale to the enemy would thus be rendered impossible, whilst his forces would be taken between two powerful fires. One or two successful batteries would probably result in the fall of the Crimea and the capitulation of the Russian armies. A descent on Kafks or Aloushta would be dangerous, from the mountain ranges through which an army would be compelled to fight its passages.

A few weeks must still pass away before the operations which are to decide the fate of Sebastopol can be commenced. When the plans that have been doubtless well matured by the allied commanders are brought into execution, and the intelligence shall be communicated to us that a powerful allied army has happily disembarked on the northern coast of the Crimea, then shall we anticipate a speedy and successful termination of the campaign.

[From the London Times, May 5.]

At length there is a gleam of hope from the Crimea. We have once more assumed the aggressive, we have been successful, and the success has been such as to induce our war minister to publish it. The data from which we have to learn the precise amount of our advantages are slight. We are given to understand, however, that there has been a serious engagement on the front and left attacks, and that the result has been the possession of the Russian rifle pits, we presume before those particular parts of our line.

The only rifle pits marked in the best and latest maps of the siege are those that have grown up in the unfortunately very wide interval which we were obliged to leave from the beginning between our batteries and the Russian fortifications. Owing to our want of men for the immense and multifarious work to be done, and to the nature of the ground, we did not advance our parallels nearer than about 1,200 yards. As is well known, the result has been that the Russians, besides constructing immense redoubts before some of their strongest existing works, have also established successively rifle pits and smaller redoubts at four principal points—viz.: the Ovens, before the Flagstaff and Garden batteries; an extensive line of pits before the Redan; those actually in advance of the Mamelon, which in its turn is in advance of the Malakoff Tower; and rifle pits upon Mount Sapoune. Most probably we have carried the rifle pits before the Redan and the Mamelon. If we have done this, and if, as is further reported, we have beaten the Russians in their attempt to recover the pits the following day, we have at length been able to make up the chief deficiency of our first operations, and pushed our attack within a distance whence we can fire with more effect upon the Russian fortifications. The capture of eight mortars and 200 prisoners shows how much the enemy had established themselves in the position we have now made our own, and the amount of protection they had made for their men.

It is evident that these advanced positions made for us by the Russians are not to be retained without great and continued efforts on our part. The whole of the surface is exposed to every kind of fire, and as it appears the Russians could not hold their ground there without a large daily average of losses, so neither can we. It may be assumed, therefore, that we have not made this advance, which, like the affair of the 19th of April, has probably cost us many valuable lives, without a determination to push forward. With the enemy it was, of course, a necessity of their position to defend themselves as well they could; and it answered to lose hundreds a day in the rifle pits, if at that price they could make us keep our distance from their principal line. An advance to these posts of danger and honor is more voluntary on our part, and doubtless also proceeds on a more settled plan. Indeed, everything indicates that we are on the point of energetic operations.—Whether we are about to attempt an assault, or to concentrate our forces suddenly for an attack on the Russian army in the field, is not yet known. The reconnaissance in force of Omer Pasha on the 19th certainly points to the latter, and its result might go some way to decide the allies in that direction. It appears that, as many sagacious people have long suspected, the Russian force in our neighborhood is very small. Probably that force has always been exaggerated. A few Cossacks, occupying a mound, or patrolling a hill, a collection of huts, and an occasional line of camp fires, have often deceived our generals into the belief that a large Russian army was hovering in our rear. Every sound calculation pointed the other way, and it is now questioned by competent authorities whether the Russians have ever had a hundred thousand men at once in the Crimea. The story reported the other day of sixty thousand fresh troops arrived in Sebastopol, and one hundred thousand more in reserve at Simpheropol, was on the questionable authority of a Russian deserter, who seemed to be dressed up for the occasion, being evidently superior to his assumed character of a non-commissioned officer, and

who had been allowed to pass from the Russian lines to our own with suspicious facility. When the history of this great siege comes to be related by Russian pens, and its miracles described in their churches, no doubt the fact most insisted on will be the very small number of men who have kept us so long at defiance, and inflicted on us such serious loss.

We are now more alive to the arts by which the enemy have multiplied their numbers. We shall now push our reconnoissances further into the field, and our parallels nearer to the walls; the imposture, for such we believe it, will soon be better understood, and we shall take that bolder line that belongs to our superiority in numbers, as in courage, endurance, and strength. We observed that thus far there was nothing to show whether the allies would deal first with the city or with the army in the field. Whatever may be intended, if, indeed, any decision has been come to, the present line of operations would be the same in either case. For the present, we have to compel the enemy to divide his forces, and weaken him as much as possible at each point; unless, indeed we could hope to seduce him into such a mistake of our intentions as to neglect the point we had really marked for attack.

While we are ready to appreciate the courage exhibited in the advance of this week, under the actual circumstances, and while we cannot but think it promises much more, yet we remember, with a feeling akin to humiliation, that in this, the eighth month of a siege conducted without stint of life or treasure, we are only just taking up the position we ought to have arrived at by the 17th of last October, if not still earlier. Just at this moment, when we are slowly making up for lost time, and actually learning siege operations from a foe we had been taught to despise, an opportunity occurs for comparing the spirit that directs the operations of the besiegers and the besieged. A letter from Sir John F. Burgoyne gives us once more the familiar picture of the veteran military savant, who views a siege principally as a school for teaching the science of fortification.

The gallant old General is still of opinion that everything was done right, though it led of necessity to a disastrous conclusion, and that in theory we have achieved a splendid performance, though in fact we have suffered disaster. Thus Sir John is ready to exclaim with the stoical republican,—*"Victoria causa Deis placuit, sed victa Catoni."* The road, he still holds ought not to have been attempted under the circumstances, it being, in his opinion, impossible for an army of seventy or eighty thousand men to make about six miles and a half of road, involving, at the utmost, the collection and laying down of about 40,000 cubic yards of the loose shingle and stones lying on the whole surface of the country. Had the Russians gone on the same principle, we might by this time have been in Sebastopol and might even have been masters of the whole of the Crimea. But they did not. We believe we can inform our readers whom it was that Sir John had to contend with. The name of the head engineer at Sebastopol is TODLEBEN. He is thirty-two years of age. His parents are poor shopkeepers in Riga. When the siege commenced Prince Menschikoff, it is said, asked the then head engineer how long it would take to put the place in a state of defense. He answered, "Two months." A young captain, named Todleben, stepped forward and said he would undertake to do it, if he had as many men as he required, in two weeks. He did it in twelve days, and was made colonel. Since that time he has had the direction of everything in the way of building batteries, defenses, &c. The other day the Grand Duke called upon his wife, who is residing in St. Petersburg, to congratulate her upon her husband's promotion; for he is now General, and Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor. Is anything more wanted to explain the painful discrepancy between what has been done by the Russians and by the Allies? The former will be bound by no ties of seniority or class; they take the man that will do his work the best, and they get it the best done.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

A despatch from Lord Raglan, dated before Sebastopol, April 21, says that Omer Pasha made a reconnoissance in front of Balaklava, with a view to ascertain what force the Russians had on the Tchernaya, with about twelve battalions of Turkish infantry, having in the plain on his left a body of French cavalry and a battery of horse artillery under Gen. Forey, and two squadrons of heavy cavalry and two squadrons of the 10th Hussars, and a half troop of horse artillery under Col. Parby.

The enemy showed only a few Cossacks on this side of the river, who remained on a height overlooking Chagouria till driven from it by a few discharges of rockets by the French artillery, and on the other side, behind the village, a small force with four guns only was visible.

Omer Pasha did not think it desirable to move across the river, but withdrew after he had satisfied himself that the enemy were not in strength, and the troops returned to their camps, the infantry covered by the cavalry and the artillery. The appearance of the Turkish army was very satisfactory.

The rifle pits in front of the approach from the advance off our trenches on the extreme right, were attacked and carried by assault the night before last, in the most gallant manner, by a detachment of the 77th Regiment under Colonel Egerton, forming part of the additional force sent to reinforce the trenches in the evening.

The resistance of the enemy, although obstinate, was speedily overcome by the impetuosity of our troops, and the pit, which it was desirable to retain, was, without the loss of a moment, connected with our approach, had thereby furnished protection to the working party to continue its labors without interruption for a considerable time. At the interval, however, of about three hours the enemy brought a heavy fire of artillery and musketry upon the party in advance of the pit, into which they retired, and which they effectually defended and maintained; but this brilliant achievement was not accomplished without considerable sacrifice of life, and it is most painful to me to have to announce to your lordship the death of Col. Egerton, of the 77th, who was unfortunately killed when forming troops for the support of those on the extreme advance, and of that of Capt. Lempriere of the same regiment, who fell in the first affair, in which also Colonel Egerton received a contusion that only incapacitated him from duty for a few minutes; and five officers were wounded, three of them dangerously.

AMOUNT OF AMMUNITION IN THE ALLIED CAMP.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times, writing on May 1st, observes:—The announcement of the suspension of the fire before Sebastopol has produced an unfavorable effect here, and has given rise to a variety of rumors more or less unfounded, respecting the losses of the army, the state of our works, and the want of ammunition. With regard to this last point, I am informed on good authority that there is no scarcity. Ammunition to an enormous amount has been sent to the Crimea, and is still sent without intermission; and with the reinforcements it is calculated that the total force, including the Sardinian contingent and the reserves at Constantinople, will be little, if at all, short of 200,000. Such an army—the greater part composed of French and English—ought to be able to do anything and go anywhere.

THE BRITISH NAVAL BOMBARDMENT.

The London Times of May 4th says:—At 11.30 P. M., on the 20th ult. all hands were turned up on board the Dauntless (off Sebastopol), for the purpose of taking their turn at firing on the batteries. The steam was up, and she got under way and gradually advanced in along the shore till within 700 yards, her guns being loaded with shell. She fired a broadside. The Russians in reply let fly about one hundred shells, which burst around the ship, one shell passing through the forestays; another broadside was immediately fired from the steamer, when an explosion took place. The cry of "fire" was raised, and she was steamed out as quickly as possible. The fire was extinguished in five minutes, and as soon as the smoke permitted it was discovered that the gun in the captain's cabin had burst, wounding four men and a boy, blowing away the beams and part of the upper and main decks. The muzzle of the gun was blown out of the port; the rest flew around in huge pieces, smashing the cabin and everything in it. The master, clerk and signal midshipman were thrown off the bridge on to the deck. The compasses, with every light on the main deck, were destroyed. It is supposed the vessel must go to Malta to repair.

Russian Accounts.

The *Invalide Russe* publishes Prince Gortschakoff's account of the bombardment to the 15th, and by telegraph the Russian official accounts are brought down to the 24th April. Prince Gortschakoff describes the cannonade which was opened by the Allies on the 9th, as tremendous; its object being evidently to dismount the Russian guns. The besieged replied with success, and on the 10th, in less than four hours, silenced 50 of their opponents' guns. From this circumstance, Prince Gortschakoff judges that the loss of the enemy must have been considerable. Some of the Russian guns and gun carriages were dismounted, but were immediately replaced by others, and all the damage done to the equipments and batteries was successfully repaired. "From the 11th to the 15th," he says, "notwithstanding that the enemy continued to cannonade the fortress with the greatest energy during the day, and to bombard it during the night, we have not had many guns dis-

mounted, owing to the fortifications having a sufficient number of traverses, and to the batteries being sheltered by blindages. All our damage is actively repaired during the night; the dismounted guns are replaced by new ones, and the losses of the garrison made good by reinforcements; so that on the 15th Sebastopol was as strong as before the bombardment."

The Allies, he states, mount 350 guns, of which 80 are mortars. He also states that the skirmishes undertaken to defeat the trench and mining operations of the besiegers, have been generally successful, and that they are "quite to the taste" of the Russian volunteers, as they offer them an opportunity of displaying their valor. The garrison, he says, is intrepid, and even gay. The loss sustained by the garrison from the 11th to the 15th of April, is set down at 7 subalterns and 436 men killed, and 6 superior and 34 subaltern officers, and 1,899 men wounded.

"In the night between the 18th and 19th of April 100 volunteers and three companies of the Tobolsk Infantry Regiment, commanded by the brave and intelligent Major Prikota, made a sortie, which was crowned with the most complete success; a section of the detachment rushed upon the nearest *entonnais* caused by the explosion, another on the approaches to it, and the other remained in reserve. The first two sections shot down and put to the bayonet the enemy, who, three companies strong, occupied the *entonnais* and the approaches leading to it, and destroyed the works erected; when the enemy's reserve came up they left the *entonnais*, joined their reserves, and drew the French under a very heavy fire of grape from Bastion 4.

"The loss of the enemy on this occasion was very considerable; our loss on the contrary, was comparatively unimportant."

In his despatch of the 24th, Prince Gortschakoff says: "The fire of the enemy continues, but is slack. The damage done to our fortifications and the losses of the garrison are also less in proportion."

English and French Accounts.

Official despatches to the 17th April state that the fire of both the English and French armies had been continued upon Sebastopol; but, though superior to that of the enemy, Lord Raglan admits that it had not produced that effect which might have been anticipated from its constancy, power and accuracy.

On the 13th the Russians made a furious sortie from the Flagstaff Battery upon the French lines. Along and desperate struggle took place. Twice the Russian succeeded in entering the parallel in advance of the battery, and twice they were repulsed—the second time with such loss as to compel an immediate retreat. The French made no attempt at pursuit, as the enemy were within a stone's throw of their own batteries. General Bizot was wounded in this affair, and having been struck also by a chance bullet, after the close of the fight, has since died. In this sortie the French lost between 50 and 60 killed and wounded—the Russians a far greater number.

On the 14th the French fired three mines under the Flagstaff Battery, with partial success. The Russians, fearing an assault, opened a furious cannonade along the whole line. On the night of the 17th the French succeeded in making a lodgment in one portion of the battery, but on the 19th they were compelled to yield their position.

Temporary Suspension of the Siege.—Gathering of Russian Reinforcements.

Telegrams from Sebastopol to the 28th ult. state that on that day the allied commanders had suspended their fire so as not to exhaust their ammunition, and that they were awaiting reinforcements, which were hourly expected.

A Russian dispatch, however, dated the evening of the 28th, says:

"The fire of the enemy is moderate. Their approaches progress slowly. We have established at 100 yards from Bastion No. 4, a row of rifle pits, which serve to form a continuous chain of communication."

The information with regard to the gathering of the Russian reinforcements is obtained from a telegraphic dispatch, dated 1st May, from Lord Raglan. The dispatch itself has not been published, but it was stated in the House of Commons on the night of the 1st that it contained an announcement of the Russian army in the neighborhood of Sebastopol, between Balaklava and Mackenzie's farm, having been reinforced by two divisions of fresh troops. According to the statements of two Polish deserters there are 100,000 Russians in the vicinity of Sebastopol, 60,000 of whom have arrived from Simpheropol.

The Very Latest.—Further Success of the Allies.

A sharp engagement took place on the night of the 1st, in the front and left attack. The whole of the Russian rifle pits were taken, eight light mortars, and two hundred prisoners. Brilliant affair.

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, May 4.—On Wednesday night last the French, under Gen. Pelissier having taken a position before the Quarantine Bastion, attacked the advanced works which the Russians had raised to protect it, and carried them at the point of the bayonet.

Twelve mortars taken from the enemy. The French have established themselves in the conquered position.

On Thursday night the Russians made a sortie to regain positions, and after a sanguinary encounter were driven back.

The King of Prussia is ill of fever.

The insurrection in the Ukraine (Russia) has extended to three other Governments. Twenty landed proprietors, with their wives and families, have been destroyed.

At St. Petersburg every article of consumption is at famine prices.

Electric Telegraph Line from the Crimea.

To London and Paris is now complete, with the exception of a portion across the Danube. However, a message can be transmitted from the camp to the Home Governments in a few hours. Three hundred miles of the wire are laid under the Black Sea.