

## **John Vincent Rohu on the Royal Albert. Crimean War 1854-1856.**

Jan.11/1865. At 11, beat the Retreat. At 14.45, the Conflict arrived from England and the Agamemnon arrived from the Black Sea with troops and the Coastguards on the quarterdeck. . . . . spoke to the Captain concerning the delay of the C.G. of this ship. At 3.45 p.m. the Majestic screw liner arrived from England. At 5 p.m. the St Jean d'Acre steamed out of the harbour for England, and was loudly cheered by the ship's company. At 5.15 quarters for inspection, then clear the lower deck and handmake sail loose topsails and net them. Then shorten sail, shift fore and mizzen topsail yards, shift main topsail and make sail. This was done in a very short time. We shortened sail, furled and sent down the royal yard. At 9 p.m. the Brunswick screw liner steamed out of harbour for the Black Sea.

Thurs.12/1/65. Daylight. Weather fine. Several vessels in sight at the mouth of the harbour. At 5 a.m. a large transport steamer towed in a large American ship which is employed by the French. At 11, sent up the royal yard. At 11.30 hands aired bedding. At the same time the Majestic screw liner steamed out of harbour for the Black Sea. At 5.15 p.m. quarters for inspection, then clear the lower deck, hand down the topgallant royal yard, then shift the topgallant mast, then up the topgallant mast and yard, then down the topgallant royal yard. At 6.45, 66 hands were sent from the Agamemnon to the Royal Albert to fill up the vacancies in the C.G. At 7.15 the Agamemnon screw liner steamed out of harbour for England with the guard on board and was loudly cheered by the crew of this ship. The cheers were returned, and during the day, lots of transports arrived with troops from the Crimea. At 10 p.m. the Retribution arrived from England.

Friday 13/1/65. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 crossed topgallant and royal yard. The Medusa, towing the Apollo came into harbour, loaded with troops. Several transports also arrived with troops. Several sailed for England and France. In the afternoon, the Retribution sailed for the Black Sea and the Centurion screw liner arrived from England. At 5.15 quarters for inspection. Then cleared lower deck, then hands made all plain sail, set studding sail, low and aloft, then shorten sail and furl, then down topgallant yard. At sunset, several sail in sight. At 8 p.m. twelve C.G. received orders to be ready to go home in the Medusa as well as eight 5-year men. At 10.15 the Algiers arrived from England.

14<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. The Colossus in sight. At 6 a.m. Colossus arrived in harbour and during the forenoon, the Dragon paddle wheel steamer arrived from England. At 5 p.m. the Royal George screw three-decker arrived.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. the Sanspareil arrived from England. At 8 up topgallant and royal yard. At 9.30 Division, then Divine Service. At 10.30 the Seahorse marten vessel arrived from England. At noon we received orders to prepare for sea to go to Constantinople to receive the Admiral. At 3.30 p.m. twenty Coastguard with a few other men left this ship to be sent home and I now, with sorrow, write, for I, with others will have to go to Constantinople in her and when we shall get clear of her, God only knows. At 5, hands got in boats. In hoisting in the mail boat, the ring drew and a man fell overboard. I am thankful to say that he is not injured. At 7 p.m. got up anchor and steamed out of harbour. At 7.30 passed a French three-decker in tow of a steamer loaded with troops. At 8 set fore and aft sails. During the night weather fine.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. One sail in sight. At 5.45 a.m. Watch set royal, topmast, topgallant studding sails and mainsail. At 9.15 quarters for inspection. At 10 the Algiers right ahead. She signalled to say that her engines had broken down. At 11 a.m. the Colossus in sight. At noon the Royal Albert passed them both. At 5 general quarters, then hands shifted topsails and hoisted them, then shorten sail, then furl all sail. At 10 p.m. watch scrubbed and washed clothes and hammocks and the same in the middle watch.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Wind light. At 6 watch made all sail with wind abeam. At 9 quarters for inspection and clear lower deck. Hands to their stations to take in all plain sail. At noon ... breezes. At 1.30 watch set topmast and topgallant studding sails. During the afternoon we passed the Belial line of battle ship loaded with troops and... the ... and we passed the Dragon paddle steamer going to tow down .... Sailing ships. At 5 clear the lower deck, take3 in all sail and furl. At 5.30 quarters for inspection with hammocks. At 7 the ship through the Arches of Pelligo (sic)-(Archeipeligo. Ed.) At 9 p.m. passed two steamers going down to Malta and during the night passed several Greek islands.

Wed.18<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Light breezes. Right ahead, the Dragon. Several sail in sight, also several islands. At 6.30 we passed our harbour of refuge in the island of Zea, and we could not be too thankful to the Lord for allowing us to have such a convenient harbour to run to to save ourselves and the ship. At 10.45 beat the Retreat. The ship is through the Doora Passage. At noon the Dragon still astern

also a French line-of-battle ship towed by a steamer ahead. At 5.15 quarters for inspection, then clear the lower deck and up topgallant and royal yard, then loose sail and up all sail. At sunset passed the French liner and steamer from the Black Sea. During the night passed a line-of-battle ship in tow.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine with fine wind. Right ahead, Constantinople in sight and the Dragon ahead. Ship making in for the entrance to the Dardanelles. At 6.30 the ship entered the Dardanelles. At 10 a.m. passed the Rodney towed by the Furious. Passed the Caesar which was coaling up also several French steamers. At 12.30 passed the Queen and the Terrible loaded with troops and a French floating battery towed by a French steamer. At 5.15 quarters for inspection, then hands to their stations to make all plain sail. At 8 p.m. ship entered the Sea of Marmara and during the first watch two steamers passed us.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Light breezes and fine wind. Right ahead Constantinople and the Dragon steamer ahead. At 5.30 we anchored off Constantinople. Ships lying there were the James Watts and several small steamers. During the forenoon the James Watts left for the Black Sea and the Caesar arrived from the Dardanelles. Our ship's company employed in coaling ship and the Caesar is now coaling as well. This day I sent my letter number 100. At noon the shipping fired a royal salute in honour of Coronation Day. The Colossus screw liner arrived and the French line-of-battle ship towed by a steam frigate.

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Breezes and fine. At 4 a.m. up all hammocks and rig capstan. At 4.45 anchor is aweigh and we proceed towards the Black Sea. As we passed the Sultan's palace, we fired a royal salute which was returned by the Turks. At 6 a.m. hands washed clothes. At noon a steamer and French line-of-battle ship astern. At noon the Majestic and Brunswick screw line-of-battle ships loaded with troops passed us. At sunset several sail in sight.

Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. wind favourable. Watch made all plain sail. Divine Service. At 1.30 wind ahead of us again. Watch shortened sail. At 2 p.m. Balaclava Heights in sight. At 7 p.m. ship anchored at Kemmish. Ships at anchor in the creek : Hannibal, James Watts and Centurion.

Mon. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. the Dragon paddle steamer arrived with transport in tow. At 6 a.m. ... watch coal ship. Port watch scraped spars and mast. Rigging down and mast down. During the day Caesar and Colossus line-of-battle ships and the Valorous paddle frigate arrived. Several French man-of-war

arrived and sailed. At 7 p.m. the coaling was finished and the coal barge was towed away to the Colossus.

Tues.24<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands scrub and wash clothes. At 8 a.m. hands clean ship and during the afternoon the Centurion sailed for England with troops. Several transports sailed and several arrived. This day there is strict lookout for the Caradoc with Admiral Lyons aboard.

Wed.25<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. Hands scrub hammocks. At 8 a.m. watch put up topgallant yards. A working party was sent onshore to assist in cleaning the Crimea. A party employed painting ship outside (exterior ?) The Colossus went round to Balaclava to take in her troops. Sunset. Down topgallant yard.

Thurs.26<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. At 5 a.m. the Royal George screw three-decker arrived to take in troops and the Algier screw arrived at 6. Sent a working party ashore at 8 a.m. Up topgallant yards. The gunboat was employed embarking troops aboard the Caesar and during the afternoon the Sanspareil screw arrived and the Caesar sailed for England. This afternoon forty nine C.G. received orders to be ready in the morning to leave this ship to go home. At sunset sent down topgallant yards.

Fri.27<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. At 8 a.m. the Coastguard that were warned to leave were taken aboard the Retribution screw. We were employed in getting in place the sheet anchor and cable which were left behind in Kemmish when we left for Malta. The Sanspareil went round to Balaclava to take in troops and a working party from the Royal George and Algier to work at Balaclava. Sunset. Down topgallant yards. At 9 p.m. the Seahorse arrived from Malta.

Sat.28<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Fresh breezes with rain. At 7 a.m. punishment for William Fry and a boy belonging to this ship. Each to receive 48 lashes and to be dismissed H.M.'s Service. At 8 a.m. up topgallant yards and dressed ship. At noon fired a royal salute. At 1.30 these two distinguished fellows were put aboard Retribution to be sent home. The afternoon turned out wet.

Sun.29<sup>th</sup>. Sent down topgallant yards. Sent 16 hands to man the Brenda flat-bottomed troop steamer. At 9.30 divisions, then Divine Service. At 2 p.m. gave leave to ship's company for ship refitting. During the day French steamers arrived with transports in tow. Sunset. Sent down topgallant yards. The weather proved fine during the night.

Mon.30<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. At 4 a.m. the Sphinx left here for Yalta with Admiral Stewart and Captain Norris on board. At 10 a.m. the C.G. received orders to get ready to leave the Royal Albert. At 2 p.m. the first lot of C.G. left the ship for the Dragon and the Valorous. The next part for the Royal George and the part after that for the Algiers. Thank God, this is the last day aboard the Royal Albert. At 8 p.m. the Sphinx arrived from Yalta.

Feb.1<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Crew employed in blacking down rigging and painting the mast. The Snake gunboat sailed for Kertch and the Triton and Valorous for Corfu.

Feb.2<sup>nd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Port watch employed in blacking down rigging. Starboard watch employed in cleaning hulk. At 1 p.m. paid ship's company monthly money and port watch went ashore. At 3 p.m. starboard watch at work on the Royal Albert. The Glutton ( Glatton. Ed.?) floating battery arrived from the Black Sea.

Sun.Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 a.m. the Curlew arrived. At 9.45 divisions, afterwards, Divine Service. At 1.30 p.m. leave given to anyone who wanted to go ashore. This day is the first day of ... in Malta.

Feb.4<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 the starboard watch went to the Royal Albert. Port watch cleaning hulk and deck. Got on board the tube of the mainshaft which had just arrived from England. At 1.30 housed the topmast and made preparations for the ship to go into dock again. The Highflyer frigate got her foremast out.

Feb.5<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 all hands on board the Royal Albert to take her into dock. Two steamers alongside lashed ... the ship under the sheers (?), got the mainshaft in and docked the ship. At 2 p.m. the second part of the port watch employed in shifting the ..... and the remainder of the crew employed in scraping the lower deck. At 3.30 the port watch have leave to go ashore.

Feb 6<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Main topmen employed in fitting fore and mainstays. The rest of the crew employed in scrubbing copper of ship's bottom.

Feb.7<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Crew employed in scrubbing copper.

Feb.8<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Rigged purches (?) with spanker boom, got in fan and frame. Made preparations to get ship out of dock.

Feb.9<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. all hands sent to the ship. Got topmast .. and set up topmast rigging. Dock gate opened but the water was insufficient to float the ship out. The Shearwater steamer took a hawser from our stern and got the Albert to move 40 feet but then she hung again and was forced to get hawsers to every capstan on shore and winch her out. Then she went to moorings. At 1 p.m.,dinner. After dinner cleared up all decks. At 8 p.m. three boats' crews employed on the pumps of the Royal Albert.

Feb.10<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 Divine Service. After Divine Service the first part of the port watch went to the Albert to pump ship out. At 5.30 a party of hands went to the Albert and to remain for the night and pump her out.

Feb.11<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6 a.m. the starboard watch went to the Albert and washed upper, main and middle decks. Port watch cleaned the hulk deck. After the hulk was clean the port watch was sent aboard the Albert to clean the lower and orlop decks and afterwards to get up both lower cables. At 1.30 p.m. starboard watch employed scrubbing paintwork and part of port watch employed cleaning.... And the second part to get up tanks out of fore hold.

Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. All hands employed clearing ship out.

Feb.13<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed clearing out ship as the doctors think she has a bad smell in her which causes the fever which some of the crew have caught.

Feb.14<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed cleaning all decks. At 1.30 hands employed cleaning ship. Preparations made for ship to go into dock at 4 p.m.. Braced up yard.

Feb.15<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 4.30 a.m. turned hands up and went to breakfast . After that the starboard watch was sent to the Royal Albert and the Shearwater which the Dragon steamer took in tow. At 6 a.m. the port watch went to the Royal Albert to paint the ropewalk. The ship was taken under the shears and got out the fan and frame. Then the ship was taken into dock and when secured, the hands were sent to scrub copper.

Feb.16<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. took the Royal Albert out of dock and took her under the shears. Got in fan and frame. She was taken in tow again but the

wind had increased and the steamers could not manage her in such a narrow space. The Shearwater got damaged and got foul of Miranda and was forced to let go. The Royal Albert was forced to let go her anchor. After some delay we got her anchor again and we were taken in tow once more. At 5 p.m. the ship got to her moorings. The port watch was sent to the Hibernia to get their dinners. At 6 p.m. the port watch returned to relieve the starboard watch who then went to get their dinners. At 9 p.m. finished mooring ship.

Sun. Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. Daylight Weather fine. At 6.30 p.m. sent port watch on board Royal Albert and squared the yard, sent jib boom out, washed deck. Afterwards was sent on board hulk to clean and to go to divisions. At 10.30 Divine Service. At 1.30 leave given to all who liked to go ashore.

Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed in getting in provisions and stowing in hold., getting purchase rove to get the guns in. In the afternoon coaled ship and got in powder.

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed in getting guns in again and more provisions. At 5 p.m. lowered the fan down into place.

Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands again employed getting in guns and provisions, stowing booms. At 2 p.m. got up steam and tried the engines at the moorings.

Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands again employed getting in guns and provisions. At 11.15 all guns aboard. At 1.30 stowed sheet anchor and got topgallant rigging over the masthead.

Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Daylight. Squally weather. At 6.30 port watch went on board the Royal Albert. A man fell from the sheet anchor and struck his head in his fall against the lower deck port and then overboard. He was picked up very much hurt. In the afternoon crew employed washing decks.

Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. commenced packing up for shifting on board Royal Albert. At 1.30 the Shearwater came alongside and took in hammocks, bags and other things, went alongside the Royal Albert and continued doing so until all men were aboard.

Feb.24<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. All hands employed cleaning all decks. Nothing particular all day. At 3 p.m. part of the watch stowing spiritroom and striking down midshipmens' chests.

Feb.25<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 the watch employed rieving running gear. At 9.30 the watch below was fallen in and 15 from each part was sent to the dockyard for sails. At 1.30 both watches fallen in for rieving running gear. The starboard watch stowed sailroom. At 4.30 rove hammocks and clotheslines.

Feb.26<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5.30 hands scrub hammocks and wash clothes. At 1.30 holystone decks. At 4.15 painted the topgallant mast. At 5 p.m. divisions with hammocks.

Feb.27<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 a.m. went to quarters for inspection. At 1 p.m. general muster and served out Crimea medals to officers and ship's company. During afternoon crew employed fitting gear and painting rakes. Port watch scraping ship's side which had been caulked by the workers.

Feb.28<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Great number of crew employed scraping ship's side and remainder putting ship to rights.

Feb.29<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 4 a.m. all hands wash clothes. During the day crew employed painting ropes.

Mar.1<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Fresh breezes with light rain. The forenoon watch employed squaring ratlines and scraping masts and booms. At 1.30 watch employed painting side of ship. Ship's company was paid monthly money. Gave leave to first part of port watch.

Mar.2<sup>nd</sup>. Daylight. Fresh breezes. At 9.30 divisions with blue cloth frocks and medals, then Divine Service. At 1.30 leave given to all the starboard watch.

Mar.3<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Crew employed painting ship. At 1.30 commenced painting port side of the main deck.

Mar.4<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Gave leave to first part of port watch and the second part of the starboard watch for 48 hours. Crew employed painting ship.

Mar.5<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. In forenoon our rudder came alongside from dockyard. At 2.30 turned all hands up and shipped rudder.



Mar 6<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Crew commenced painting upper deck.

Mar 7<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Crew employed painting ship.

Mar 8<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Agamemnon came out of dock and Prince Royal went in. Leave given to first part of starboard watch and second part of port watch.

Mar 9<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 went to divisions. Afterwards Divine Service. At 1.30 p.m. general leave given.

Mar 10<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Watch employed getting 400 bags of bread. At 1.30 turned hands up. Took in ... and fore and main. Topmen employed fitting top ... pendants.. St Jean d'Acre sailed for Athens.

Mar 11<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Forenoon, got stores aboard. At 2 p.m. bent, reefed and furled sails. At 4.30 rieved hammock gauntline and clotheslines. At 5 p.m. went to divisions for cleaning hammocks.

Mar 12<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3.30 hands scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 7.30 called the watch who holystoned the deck. Painters employed painting upper deck. At 1.30 the Meteor floating battery sailed for England. Prince Royal came out of dock. At 5.15 went to divisions with hammocks.

Mar 13<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Carpenters and sailmakers employed about hammock clothes. At 5.15 went to divisions.

Mar 14<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. A party assembled on board Royal Albert. At 5 p.m. party broke up.

Mar 15<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Watch employed setting up topmast backstays. Carpenters fitting crutches for booms. At 4 p.m. holystoned booms. Slung hammocks. Leave for first part of port watch.

Mar 16<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Strong breezes. At 9.30 divisions. Afterwards Divine Service. At 2.15 covered hammocks as rain fell heavily. At sunset sent down topgallant mast.

Mar.17<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant mast and yard. Loosed sails. At 11.30 furled sails. At sunset sent down topgallant royal yard and ...hammock gauntlines and clotheslines.

Mar.18<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. hands scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 9.30 middle deck quarter exercised great guns. At 1.30 piped hammocks and clothes down.

Mar.19<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. went to divisions with hammocks. Afterwards beat to general quarters and cast loose the guns but did not work them. At 11.30 loosed sails. At 5.40 bent topgallant sails and royals. A French liner arrived in harbour.

Mar.20<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yard. At 9.30 crew to divisions. Afterwards mustered by open list. At 11 watch rieved gauntlines. At 11.30 aired bedding. Agamemnon bent sails and Hannibal exercised making sail and shifting topsails. At 1.30 lashed up hammocks and made up gauntlines. Watch below made up and mended clothes. Fore and main topmen of the watch and deck employed fitting topsail yard. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yard.

Mar 21<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Heavy rain. At 6 a.m. lashed up hammocks and ... them up to the beams. At 7.15 called the watch below. Cleaned lower deck Watch and deck up main deck awning. At 8 a.m. stowed hammocks on the main deck. At 9.30 went to divisions. At 10 a.m. Divine Service. At 11.50 piped all hammocks up and stowed them in nettings. At 1.35 beat to divisions and afterwards each part of the ship were sent for their bags to search for stolen property but nothing was found. At 3 p.m. loosed sails, afterwards with hammocks to search them. Nothing was found. At 4 p.m. called the watch. At 4.30 went to supper. At 5.11 quarters for inspection. At 5.30 squared sails and furled yards. After that up boats and coiled ropes. At 5.30 piped hammocks down. This has been a ..... Sunday and I hope I may never see one like it.

Mar.22<sup>nd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. loosed sail. Agamemnon fired a gun for a court-martial on that ship for two deserters. Their sentence was to receive 100 lashes and then be sent to prison for two years. At 4 p.m. furled sails and squared yards. At 4.40 went to divisions for cleaning hammocks.

Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yard. At 9.30 divisions. Afterwards Divine Service. At 11.30 heavy fall of rain. Spread main deck awning. At sunset sent down topgallant and royal yard.

March 24<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 a.m. all the boys were assembled on the forecastle to witness the punishment of three boys for throwing stones at an officer when ashore and they were going to be confirmed by the Bishop of Gibraltar. At 7.30 all hands were called to witness the punishment of a marine for disobedience to an order. He received 42 lashes but was sent aft after receiving 36 lashes. Afterwards all hands up the topgallant and royal yard to loose sails. At 11.30 furled sails. At 2 p.m. all smallarms men landed for exercise. At sunset down topgallant and royal yard and rove dressing gear for dressing ship with flags.

Mar.25<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yard and dressed ship. At noon the fleet and the French liner fired a salute in honour of the birth of the French Prince. At 1.30 all boats tried the... of.... At sunset sent down topgallant and royal yard and undressed ship, rove hammock gauntlines and clotheslines.

Mar.26. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. turned hands up, scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 6.40 a boat from every ship with one Lieutenant and one Boatswain's Mate assembled on board the Spiteful to witness the punishment of Joseph Clement who was sentenced to receive 100 lashes for desertion and offering violence to the Gunner of his ship who was endeavouring to take him. While he was receiving the lashes all hands of each ship were assembled on the quarterdeck of their own ships and the Articles of War were read until he had received the 100 lashes. At 9.15 went to general quarters. At 11 beat the retreat. At 1.30 piped hammocks and clothes down. At 5.15 went to divisions with hammocks.

Mar.27<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yard and loosed sails. At 1.30 p.m. watch employed re-stowing sail room.

Mar 28<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. loosed sails. Watch scraped mast and booms. At 10 a.m. it came on squally with rain. Watch furled sails and spread main deck awning. At 5 p.m. went to division for cleaning hammocks.

Mar.29<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yards. At 9.30 divisions. At 10 Divine Service. At 1.30 leave given to those who did not break their leave. Mr. Davidson, gunner of the Royal Albert, died in hospital.

Mar.30<sup>th</sup>. No entry-Ed.

Mar.31<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yards. Loosed sails. At 9 a.m. got out one middle deck gun and sent it ashore to get it unspiked. At 11 furlled sails. At 1.30 crew employed picking up port anchor. At 5 p.m.... and finished port lower anchor. A part of the crew went to attend the funeral of our late gunner.

Apr.1<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. hands scrub hammocks and wash clothes. At 11 piped hammocks and washed clothes down. At 1.30 watch shift jib boom. At 5 p.m. heavy fall of rain with wind. Watch called to hawse topgallant mast. Anchor watch was kept during the night.

Apr.2<sup>nd</sup>. Daylight. Strong breezes with rain. At 6.30 piped hammocks up and stowed them on main deck. At 9 a.m. stowed the hammocks in nettings. At 9.30 General Quarters. At 1.30 watch unstowed boom for ...where booms are stowed. At 5.30 sailed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pinnaces with fire engines for exercise and stowed boom.

Apr.3<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant mast and loosed sails. At 9.30 went to divisions. At 11.30 aired bedding. At 1.30 furlled sails, unbent sail and squared yard. At 9.30 p.m. sailed all boats away and sculled round the Prince Royal. After returning all hands were piped down to their hammocks.

Apr.4<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed the topgallant yards. At 9 piped hands up screw and coaled ship. During the afternoon a steamer arrived with intelligence that peace is proclaimed. At 2.30 p.m. fleet dressed ship with the Russian flag at the main and the French flag at at the fore and the Sardinian and Turkish at the mizzen. At 3 p.m. fleet fired a royal salute in acknowledgement that we were at peace once more with Russia. At 4.30 finished coaling ship and cleaned lower deck. At sunset sent down topgallant and undressed ship.

Apr.5<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. Forenoon watch employed scraping mast and booms. At 1.30 watch employed cleaning ship.

Apr.6<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 scraped the topgallant yard. At 9.30 divisions. At 10 Divine Service. Sunset: down topgallant yard.

Apr.7<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant yards. Nothing of note took place during the day.

Apr.8<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. Afternoon went to divisions with hammocks.

Apr.9<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant yard. At 9 General Quarters. At 11 beat the Retreat and made sail, shifted sails and furled sails at 2 p.m. A heavy squall came on. Sent down topgallant mast and yards.

Apr.10<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant mast and yard. Loosed sails. At 9 a.m. shifted topgallant mast and a sad accident happened to a young man who had the misfortune of losing his fingers from one of his hands. Sunset went to divisions. Sent down topgallant yard.

Apr.11<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 hands made sail and shifted topsails which was..twice sent down and up topgallant yard and furled sails. At 1.30 hands got out the first launch and got ...anchor and cable in her for exercise. As soon as she returned the anchor and cable were taken out. One month's money was paid to ship's company. Sunset and down topgallant yard.

Apr.12<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. loosed sail. Watch employed scraping mast and boom. Princess Royal bent small sail and exercised making and shortening sail. At 11 furled sails and squared yard. At 5 p.m. divisions for cleaning hammocks.

Apr.13<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant yard and at 9.30 divisions. At 10 Divine Service. At sunset sent down topgallant yard and bent small sails.

Apr.14<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yard. At 9.30 turned hands up to exercise loosing and furling sails.. Sent down topgallant and royal yards. Piped down from aloft, then sent up topgallant and royal yards, loosed sails and made all plain sail, then took in to reefs in the topsails, furled topgallant and royals, then shifted topsails and took in two reefs. Made sail and shifted courses, then shortened and furled sails. At 5.30 the watch and both watches of gunners shifted mainsail. At sunset sent down topgallant and royal yard. Rove hammock gauntlines and clotheslines. Then leave was given to part of the port watch and the second part of the starboard watch for 48 hours. The Princess Royal sailed for Athens and the Furious arrived.

Apr.15<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m.all hands scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yard. At 11 a.m.

punishment on board. Three men punished for being ashore without leave. At 5 p.m. went to divisions with hammocks. Sunset down topgallant and royal yard.

Apr.16<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yard. At 9 beat to General Quarters but only worked lower deck guns. At 1.30 manned and armed boats. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yards.

Apr.17<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed royal and topgallant yards. At 9.30 divisions. At 1.30 turned hands up and sent down royal and topgallant yards. Hawsed topgallant mast, rieved jib boom, unbent headsails and small sails and made preparation to set up lower rigging. Stayed the foremast and turned in port watch for topmast backstays.

Apr. 18<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 4 a.m. turned watch up to wash decks. Forecastle men employed on bowsprit. At 6.30 turned up hands to stay foremast. At 9.30 hands employed setting up lower rigging and topmast rigging. Sent main topgallant mast on deck to examine it . At 4 p.m. sent up topgallant mast, sent out jib boom, bent the..hauled taut ropes and squared yards.

Apr.19<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 4 a.m. turned watch up to rattle and black down rigging. At 6 a.m. breakfast. At 6.30 watch and deck rattle down rigging. Watch below holystone lower deck. At 1.30 turned hands up. Watch and deck holystone decks. Watch below finish the rigging and bend small sails. At 5.30 went to divisions for cleaning hammocks.

Apr. 20<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9,30 went to divisions. At 10 a.m. Divine Service. The Tribune sailed for England but the Furious will tow her as far as Gibraltar with Governor General on board.

Apr.21<sup>st</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 a.m. turned hands up to witness the punishment of James Bird for theft. He received 48 lashes. At 9 a.m. went to General Quarters. At 11 beat the Retreat. At 1.30 the carpenters employed making preparations for a ball. At 5.30 rove hammock gauntlines and clotheslines.

Apr.22<sup>nd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. turned hands up, scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. In forenoon watch employed in rigging ballroom. At 2 p.m. John Webb got his leg smashed in unstowing the boom for this foolish ball trying to get everything out of the way. At 5 p.m. went to divisions with cleaning hammocks. Afterwards... hands from each part of the ship went to bury John

Dingle who died from the effects of drink. He was the Admiral's Secretary's servant.

Apr..23<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. The Harrier sloop arrived. Crew employed rigging ballroom. Nothing particular during the day.

Apr.24<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Weather fine. A Turkish frigate sailed for England. Watch employed rigging ballroom and transporting quarterdeck guns forward.

***A gap occurs here of the period 25<sup>th</sup>.April 1855 to 21<sup>st</sup>. May 1855 inclusive.***

## **Off Sebastopol, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1855.**

Mon. May 22<sup>nd</sup>. At daylight commenced embarking Turkish troops for Kertch. At 5 p.m. got in all boats and flats for landing troops. At 7 p.m. weighed anchor for Kertch in company with the greater portion of the fleet, but leaving a sufficient number to watch enemy movements.

Tu. May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Daylight. Hazy weather and fine. Nothing occurred during the day.

W. May 24<sup>th</sup>. Daylight. Off the entrance of Kertch. At 5.30 sent the Miranda in chase of a Russian steamer. At 11.30 all came to anchor in the roads. Distance from Kertch about 10 miles. All the small steamers sent ahead to get closer inshore. French and English gunboats dispatched ahead to harry the enemy while we were getting boats ready and taking troops to small flat-bottomed steamers. At 2 p.m. commenced landing troops, the gunboats firing shot and shell occasionally to annoy the enemy. The Snake gunboat was annoying the fort at Yanakeel. At 3 p.m. the enemy commenced blowing up their forts and just about this time a troop of the enemy cavalry showed themselves but a shell or two from the Recruit steamer sent them flying over the hill again. The landing of our troops was carried on with great despatch, for as soon as the boats were loaded with troops, they were carried close inshore by a steamer. At 8 p.m. an explosion took place at Yanakeel. It proved to be a large magazine blown up by the enemy. Our boats kept on landing troops all night. At 8.15 a large ... was towed alongside the ship full of packages and chests which a Russian steamer was forced to let go as she was so closely persued by one of our gunboats and picked up by one of our gigs. The contents proved to be Government papers including a journal and all sorts of household furniture.

Th. 25. May. At daylight the troops on shore advance on the town of Kertch and as soon as our troops were discovered by the enemy they set on fire their large factory and deserted it. But our troops found the town deserted by all but a few inhabitants. They suffered very much from the warm weather and the want of water. During the day our ship was discharging the baggage belonging to the Turks. At 6 p.m. our troops had possession of Yanakeel and our gunboat had taken several prizes. A floating battery with three guns arrived off the fort.

F. 26<sup>th</sup>. May. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. Boats employed ashore at government yard taking ropes and all sorts of things for the use of the fleet. Our gunboat was employed some distance off.



Sat. 27<sup>th</sup>. May. Daylight. Fresh breezes and fine. Boats employed in taking machinery from the factory of Kertch and a party went from each ship to dismantle..... and transport them down to the shore, that they might be taken to England and France.

Su, 28<sup>th</sup>. May. Daylight. Fresh breezes and fine. Boats still employed in Kertch.

M. 29<sup>th</sup>. May. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. Boats still employed in Kertch.

Tu. 30<sup>th</sup> May. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. The boats employed in Kertch.

W. 31 May. No entry. Next entry is 'Thur. 31<sup>st</sup>. May' and the one after that is 'Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup>. June', so accuracy of day/date a little in question from this point. (Ed.)

Th. 31<sup>st</sup> May. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. The boats in Kertch. At 2 p.m. the two launches were ordered to get ready for an expedition in the Sea of Azoff.

F. 1<sup>st</sup> June. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. Two launches left the ship and were towed by the Danube steamer up the Sea of Azoff. At 3 p.m. fell in with the Brander steamer and with the boats of the Princess Royal. At 6 fell in with the Ranger gunboat. At 9 anchored for the night.

Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup>. June. Daylight. Fresh breezes with heavy swell. Dismounted our guns. At 5 p.m. sighted the Miranda and gunboats, both French and English. That night we received orders to be ready for action. We were at that point some fifteen miles from Tagenock (properly Tagenrog). Ed.)

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>. June. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. At 3 a.m all the boats were ready for action and all the fleet of gunboats under way but the water was not deep enough for all to go up so we proceeded at a slow pace as there are so many shallows about this place. Now and again, some of the boats were assembled on the starboard side of the Recruit to receive our orders from Captain Lyons and the other officers in command while the gigs were sent ashore with a flag of truce. At 8 a.m. the officers were ordered to advance with the boats by seniority. Each boat was to tow the boat astern of it and to advance in true line. The French formed one and the English another and a floating stage and another belonging to the Curlew with a large gun in her and the stage with a long thirty-two pound and a beautiful blue ensign flying. At 9.30 the boats took up their stations and opened fire with

shot, shell and rocket from the boats as well as the gunboats but the chief of our fire was directed against the government stone house and likewise to cover our landing party, for setting fire to the stores of rafts and timber which were discovered already, but we saw a great body of troops. They did not show themselves after we had opened fire so the boats continued to fire for hours. The boat I was on was ordered to go up near the River Don, but not before the enemy had opened fire on us with musketry. They did not do any damage, only wounding one man in the face. At 1.30 our launch and the three others were taken in tow by the Brander steamer and we were towed up by the mouth of the Don. There we set on fire several sailing vessels loaded with meat and meal. One was towed down with us. At 11 passed Tagenrog and saw the town burning very fiercely. At midnight got down to the anchorage.

M.4<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Light breeze and hazy. All the fleet under way to Mariupol

At 4 p.m. anchored at Mariupol. The enemy appeared to be in great confusion on shore. They were taking away their goods as fast as they could but towards evening a great body of troops showed themselves but at a distance from us.

Th. 5<sup>th</sup> June. Daylight. Breezes and fine. At 8 sent in a flag of truce and assembled all the boats for action. Captain Lyons went through the fleet of boats and gave orders to advance. Just at the time our boats were going to fire another flag of truce was sent down by the enemy and as soon as it was answered and time given for the people to get clear of the boats we opened fire. Three rounds were fired. Then the marines were landed. They were sent through the town and destroyed all government stores and buildings. After all was destroyed, they were to march down again but the seamen and marines that were setting fire to the stores wanted to drop their work and go after pigs, geese and fowls, slitting the pigs down with the sword. At noon the fleet left for..... and different steamers took them in tow.

W.6<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Fresh breezes and haze. At 9 a.m. the boats were assembled for action. They were towed in by the Recruit and a flag of truce was sent ashore, but the Governor pledged his word that we should not get any opposition. We could not do what was planned so the firing party was landed and there were . and two gigs sent down for the French and English officers. The burning party went to work and set on fire stacks of corn and hay that reached a mile and a quarter in length, returned to their boats and to their respective ships. At 11 a.m. left for ... in tow of the Miranda with fresh breezes and hazy weather.

Th.7<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Strong breezes with heavy sea. The boats were continually breaking adrift from the ships that were towing them. At noon our boat broke adrift but we did not need to be picked up because we made sail in our boat and sailed after the ships as it was far safer. At 3 p.m. got in under Miranda's stern and made fast for the night. We could see a great number of enemy troops on shore and a great many fires. We received orders for all ands to come out of the boats except four hands. I preferred ( to stay ? Ed.) before going on board for all that there was a heavy sea running. During the night we expected to part our mooring and if so, we must have drifted right into the enemy, but thanks be to the Lord, it was not the case.

F.8<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Strong gales with heavy sea. Large bodies of troops were seen coming down to the town. We were visited by that good Captain Lyon very early in the morning. He spoke to us and asked us how we had got on during the night. I must say he was a kindhearted man to us and he and his crew came and had a look at us very often during the day.

Sat. 9<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Strong breezes with heavy seas. Visited by Captain Lyon early in the morning. A great number of troops showed themselves during the day.

Sun.10<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Moderate breezes. The Banshee in sight with orders for all boats to return to their respective ships. We were towed by the Danube. At 2 p.m. while in tow and moving out through the entrance of the Sea of Azoff, one man belonging to the Princess Royal fell overboard out of the boat and was drowned. At 4 p.m. got on board our ships and found them ready to go to Anapa the following morning.

M.11<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. A marine died and was buried. At 4 p.m. sent up topgallant mast and bent small sail.

Tues.12<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. The Miranda arrived from the Sea of Azoff. Nothing particular during the day.

W.13<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Fine weather. Got in all boats and made ready for sea.

Th. 14<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Weather fine. Got underway for Anapa. At 10 a.m. anchored off Anapa. Admiral and officers went aground and found the place had been deserted by the enemy, the guns destroyed and now garrisoned by Circassians and Turks. The Tribune ran ashore but received no damage. The Admiral and officers returned. Weighed anchor and steered for Sebastopol.

Fri. 15<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. St. Jean d'Arc ran aground toward the lighthouse but French and English steamers got her off undamaged.

Sat. 10<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Weather fine. Several of our steam frigates and the three launches of the Royal Albert got ready to go in under the fort. This evening at 9 p.m. our boats left the ship and were towed in under the fort by the Danube. At 10.30 the frigates opened fire with shell and each one, as it came in, fired three rounds, then retired to its anchorage. At 11 the boats opened fire with 24-pound rockets, directing all their fire at Constantine, meanwhile the shipping was firing at Fort Alexander. The enemy did not forget us !

Sun 17<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Light breezes and hazy. At 3.30 met the Snake going to give the enemy a shell or two. At 4 boats arrived at the ship and a most terrible bombardment commenced. The roaring of the cannon was terrific and continued for the whole day. At 6 p.m. boats got ready to go in under the fort again, also the French and the English frigates. At 11 the boats were towed in by the Spitfire and we commenced our fire at 11.30 at Fort Alexander. The shipping sent in their fire in the same direction.

M. 18<sup>th</sup>. June. The town was set on fire in three places and Captain Lyons of the Miranda was wounded in the leg. The Princess Royal was struck with a shell on the upper deck and one of the guns of the Dauntless burst and killed and wounded several men at the gun. During the morning the English made an attempt to storm the Malakoff and through some misunderstanding 50 bluejackets and hundreds of soldiers lost their lives.

Tu. 19<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Fleet under way. Cruised off Sebastopol. Sunset. Fleet came to anchor.

W. 20<sup>th</sup>. June. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. Nothing of note during the day. At night some of the line-of-battle ships went in and fired a fine broadside of shell. This sort of fire annoys the enemy very much.

Thurs. 21<sup>st</sup> June. Daylight. Weather fine. Commander Martin joined this ship and read his Commission. During the day a fire observed in Sebastopol and heavy firing of musketry.

F. 22<sup>nd</sup>. June. Weather fine. Nothing particular occurred. At noon our gig went in with a flag of truce to deliver letters from our (Russian. Ed.) prisoners.

Sat.23<sup>rd</sup>.June. Weather fine. Nothing particular occurred.

Sun 24<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Weather fine. One man died on board. Sir George Brown came on board, sick. At noon, flag of truce sent in to Sebastopol.

M.25<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Fresh breezes. French marten battery firing at intervals. The shells were observed bursting over enemy shipping. Poor Captain Lyons reported dead from his wound in the leg. Six small gunboats arrived from England and a Captain Marshall dealt with a doctor for cruelty to the sick and wounded.

Tues.26<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Strong gales from the s.s.west. Got underway and..... aft and on all day and night.

W.27<sup>th</sup>.June. Weather more moderate with showers of rain during the day. About 70 sail arrived from Constantinople.

Th.28<sup>th</sup> June. Daylight. Fresh breezes with heavy showers of rain. Intelligence received of the death of Lord Raglan. Who died at 9 p.m. this day. Fleet at anchor.

F.29<sup>th</sup> June. Daylight. Light breezes and fine. The Admiral went to visit the remains of Lord Raglan. Sir George Brown left for England.

Sat 30<sup>th</sup>.June. Daylight. Weather fine. Nothing of importance occurred this day.

Sun.1<sup>st</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. Continual firing of shell and shot on shore. Court Martial on a marine for stabbing a Corporal. Sentenced to death.

Mon.2<sup>nd</sup>.July. Daylight. Fine weather. Watch got ready for coaling ship.

Tu.3<sup>rd</sup>.July. Daylight. Fresh breezes. Lord Raglan's remains brought down to Kemmish Creek and conveyed on board the Caradoc. At 6.50 minute gun was fired as the remains were conveyed on board.

Wed.4<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. All small gunboats or 'the pidgeons' as the seamen call them, sailed for the Sea of Azoff.

Th.5<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. Coaled ship. Heavy firing on shore during the day. At night heavy firing of musketry.

F.6<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. Still coaling ship. At 1 p.m. ship is filled with coal.

Sat.7<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. Sharp firing on shore during the day.

Sun 8<sup>th</sup>.July. Weather fine. Firing on shore very sharp. General Jones arrived on board.

Mon.9<sup>th</sup>.July. Heavy firing during the first watch.

Tues.10<sup>th</sup>.July. Weather fine. Heavy firing again on shore through the day and all night. At 7 p.m. sent down the topgallant mast, unbent small sails and struck lower yards.

W.11<sup>th</sup>. July. Daylight. Weather fine. All hands refit ship and turn the lower rigging in a ... and everything required.

Th.12<sup>th</sup> July. Daylight. Fresh breezes. Hands employed refitting ship. At 3 p.m. sent up topgallant mast and lower yards. Sharp firing at night.

F.13<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Fresh breezes with thunder and lightening. Bent small sails and painted mastheads.

Sat.14<sup>th</sup>. July. Daylight. Strong breeze. Struck topgallant mast. Nothing of note during the day.

Sun.15<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. At noon heavy squalls with rain.

M.16<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. Exercises shifting topgallant mast and yards.

Tu 17<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. Exercising topgallant mast and yards, reefing, making sail.

W.18<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. General Quarters. At 5.30 p.m.exercising topgallant mast and yards.

Th.19<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. Sent up topgallant mast and yards and exercised furl and main. The Prometheus with Admiral Freemantle on board arrived.

F.20<sup>th</sup>. July. Daylight. Weather fine. Nothing of note took place during the day. At evening exercised making of plain sail, reefing topsails and shifting courses.

Sat.21<sup>st</sup>.July. Weather fine. Loosed sails. Nothing of note took place during the day.

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>. July. Weather fine. Crossed topgallant yards. Gave leave to first class petty officers.

M.23<sup>rd</sup>. July. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.35 punishment on board. At 8 a.m. broke topgallant yard. During the morning the main deck quarters employed firing at a target. At 1.30 main topmen employed refitting topsail yard.

Sun.24<sup>th</sup>. July. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5.30 p.m. exercised making sail.

M. 25<sup>th</sup>. July. Daylight. Squally weather. Sent up topgallant mast and yards. At 5.30 p.m. exercised getting up and down launches' purchases. Got in launch and pinnace.

Tues. 26<sup>th</sup>. July. Daylight. Weather squally with showers of rain. At 1.30 all hands made and mended clothes. At 5.30 exercised reefing topsails and furling with three reefs.

W.27<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m sent up topgallant yard. At 5.30 exercised sails. Sunset. Sent down topgallant mast and yards.

Th.28<sup>th</sup>.July. Daylight. Light breezes with rain. At 10 a.m. loosed sails. 2 p.m. furled sails.

F.29<sup>th</sup>.July. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yard. Gave leave to first class petty officers. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yard.

Sat.30<sup>th</sup>July.Daylight. Weather fine. Sent up topgallant and royal yards and loosed sails. 9.15 furled sails. At 5.30 got in launch and rove hammock gauntlines and clotheslines.

Sun.31<sup>st</sup>. July. Daylight. Light breezes with rain. Scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 8 a.m. loosed sails. At 1.30 furled sails.

Wed..1<sup>st</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather squally with rain. Sent down topgallant mast. Got in pinnace. At 3.30 hands to their stations reefing topsails and courses.

Days don't match dates here.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant mast and yard. Loosed sails. At 1.30 furled sails and aired bedding. At 5.30 exercised foretopsail. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yard.

Fri.3<sup>rd</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. scrubbed and washed clothes. At 8 a.m.sent up topgallant and royal yard. At sunset sent them down again.

Sat 4<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. At 3 a.m.up all hammocks and get under way. At 7 a.m. anchored within 3000 yards of Sebastopol. At 1 got our anchor up as we found we were within range of enemy shelling.

Sun 5<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 sent up topgallant and yard. At 11.30 Divine Service on board. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and yard. Loaded all guns with shot.

M.6<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m sent down main yard to replace boom irons which had carried away. At 5.30 p.m. sent up main yard. At 7 p.m. rove hammock gauntlines and clotheslines. Got in second launch.

Tu.7<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m.scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 6 p.m. exercised in making sail and shifting topsails. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yards.

8<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. Sent up topgallant and royal yards. Loosed sails. At 8.30 General Quarters. At 11.15 furled sails. At 1.15 General Quarters and fired at a target. At 4.15 heavy squalls and sent down topgallant mast and yard.. Got in first pinnace.

9<sup>th</sup> Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. Sent up topgallant mast and royal yards, loosed sails. At 9 a.m. Articles of War read to all the crew and Memos of Court Martials. At 11.30 aired bedding. At 1.50 furled sails. At 2.15 watch below make and mend clothes. At 2.45 watch out pinnace. Heavy firing on shore during the first watch.

10<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. scrubbed and washed clothes.



At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yard. At 2 p.m. in the advance, Russian battery blew up. At 5 p.m. exercised in making and furling sail., shifting courses and furling sails. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yard.

11<sup>th</sup>.Aug. At 11.30 a.m. furled sails. At 3 p.m. French steamer went in and opened fire on the Russian advance and did good execution. Very heavy firing on shore during the night.

12<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yard. Nothing of any note during the day.

13<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m sent up topgallant and royal yard. Loosed sails. On upper and main deck exercised with great guns. At noon French mortar steamer employed throwing shell into the Russian advance battery. Sunset. Down topgallant and royal yard.

14<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 8 a.m sent up topgallant and royal yard. Middle deck exercised great guns.

15<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. dressed ship with flags. The Emperor's Birthday. The French had a regatta with all their boats at noon firing a royal salute. Sunset. Sent down the topgallant and royal yards. Undressed ship.

16<sup>th</sup>.Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yard and exercised yard. At 11.30 aired bedding, made and mended clothes. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yard. The firing on shore was very heavy during the night.

17<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 2 a.m. coal vessel came alongside for coaling ship. At noon received news of a great victory obtained over the enemy by the allies. Upwards of 5000 Russians killed and taken prisoner. A rumour of General Arthur (?) Sacen (?) being killed.

18<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. Very heavy firing on shore. Two French line-of-battle ships sailed with Russian prisoners.

19<sup>th</sup> Aug. Daylight. Weather changeable. At 8 a.m.sent up topgallant and royal yard. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yard.

20<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Strong breezes. At 6.30 two men punished.

21<sup>st</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. scrubbed hammocks, scrubbed clothes. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yards, loosed sails. At 1.30 furled sails. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yards. Discovered the enemy making a bridge across the harbour. The firing on shore was very heavy.

22<sup>nd</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m sent up topgallant and royal yards. Hoisted the national flag at the masthead. At noon fired a salute. Sunset. Sent down the topgallant and royal yards.

23<sup>rd</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m sent up the topgallant and royal yards. At 11 a.m aired bedding and got 2<sup>nd</sup>. Launch out. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yards. All hands employed getting mortar boats into the French creek during the night.

24<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. Made preparations to man yards. Heavy firing on shore. French mortar boats trying their range and the enemy very busily employed on the north side, erecting nine batteries.

25<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yards. At 1.15 p.m. manned yards for Baron de Radcliffe, Ambassador of Turkey, who came on board the Royal Albert. Fired a salute of 19 guns. He left for Headquarters at 9 p.m.

26<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yards. At 1 p.m. leave for ship's company to go ship visiting. Sunset. Got down topgallant and royal yards. Got the pinnace on board.

27<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yards. Loosed sails. Different officers went ashore to the Army Headquarters to meet Baron de Radcliffe who was going to confer honours on them. At 1.30 furled sails. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yard.

28<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m sent up topgallant and royal yards. Divisions. Quarters marines employed firing at target. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yards.

29<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yards. Loosed sails. At 9 a.m. General Quarters. Fired at target. At 2 p.m. boys employed firing at a target. At 5.30 sent down topgallant and royal yards.

30<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yards. At 11 aired bedding. At 5.30 made sail, shifted topsails. Shortened and furled sail and sent down royal yards.

31<sup>st</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. loosed sails. At 11.30 furled sails.

1<sup>st</sup>. Sept. An explosion took place on shore. Four French officers and forty men killed by the explosion. 80 men wounded. 7 tons of powder blew up by accident.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up topgallant and royal yards. At 11.30 aired bedding. At 5.30 exercised making and furling sails. Sunset. Sent down topgallant and royal yards.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Sept. No entry.

4<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Fine. In the morning watched the enemy making a sortie on the French trenches. The enemy retreated with great loss. At 3 a.m. scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. At 5.30 exercised shifting jibs.

5<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed topgallant and royal yards. Loosed sails. At 9 General Quarters. At 5.30 made plain sail and shifted topsails. Furled sails and sent down royal yard.

6<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. sent up royal yard and rove purchases for slinging guns. Slung two middle deck guns on the forecastle to try what we could do to throw shell and shot into the Russian fort. At noon commenced firing. The siege on shore opened and did great execution but the firing of shell from our sling guns burst before reaching the distance that would have taken them into the fort. We could not tell where our shot fell. A fire in Sebastopol during the night.

7<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. Siege on shore kept up with great vigour. Some of our mortars on shore are directed towards the enemy shipping. At 3 p.m. enemy ship in the harbour seen to be on fire. Our fleet sent down topgallant yards and Admiral went ashore to Headquarters. The Terrible arrived with several mortars for the siege, also shot and shell from Gibraltar.

She was sent inshore to discharge the mortars. The siege went on with great vigour. The enemy ship is still on fire which caused some of their shipping to haul out of the way.

8<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Strong breeze with heavy sea. Made preparations to weigh anchor and prepared for action just before noon. But the heavy swell prevented us from taking part with the Army. The mortar boats continued their fire with great effect for all that there was a great swell running where they were lying. During the morning a fire broke out in the dockyard. At noon the allies began their advance on the enemy to storm Sebastopol. At 12.10 the French flag flying on the Malakoff and our troops stormed the Redan. Part of the French army attacked the horseshoe battery but the poor fellows at the horseshoe battery had to retreat as the Russians sprang a mine.

As soon as the mine was fired the French faced the enemy again but were beaten back with great loss. The ground was covered with the dead and I am sorry to say that the English were repulsed at the Redan. The Russian steamers were directing their fire at the Malakoff. The town was on fire in several places and some heavy explosions took place in Sebastopol. The French still kept the Malakoff with hard work. The enemy attacked with great vigour but were beaten back with heavy losses, covering the road with their dead. Towards midnight, the enemy began their retreat.

9<sup>th</sup>. Aug. Daylight. Light breezes Hazy over the harbour I suppose from the guns and the houses on fire. At 5 a.m we can't make out the enemy ships. They had disappeared for they were sunk. The enemy were in full retreat across the bridge and the steam boats were all that remained of their fleet. At 7 a.m the Constantine fort blew up/ At 10.30 the horseshoe blew up with a tremendous crash. During the day several other explosions took place but I fear lots of the French were blown up with them. I saw lots of them round the fort for the sake of plunder but the losses must be very great on both sides. The enemy losses must be enormous. The allies are in full possession of Sebastopol on the south side and on the north side the enemy is in great confusion.

10<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 sent up topgallant mast. Very little firing on shore during the day. Sunset. Sent down topgallant mast and yard. Got in all boats. Main purchase carried away but no damage done.

11<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Blowing strong. Let go the port lower anchor and sent down all main sails out of the tops. Towards midnight the Russian steamer was set alight by their own hand.

12<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Strong breezes. At 4 a.m. turned hands up to pick up port anchor. Got up steam, weighed anchor and shifted further off land.

13<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather moderating. At 8 a.m sent up topgallant and yards. Loosed sail and got up all boats. At 11 furlled sails and aired bedding. At 1.30 lashed up hammocks. Sunset. Got in one launch and one pinnace. Down royal yard.

14<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. Washed clothes. Fleet pick up their stations. Left 4 officers ashore to see the remains of the town of Sebastopol. At 6.30 got in two launches. Some firing took place during the day.

15<sup>th</sup>.Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. loosed and furlled sails. At 11... At 4 p.m. invalids left for the hospital.

16<sup>th</sup> Sept. Daylight. Squally weather. At 11 a.m. sent down topgallant and yard.

17<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m sent up topgallant mast and yard. Loosed sail. At 8.45 got out the first launch. At 11 a.m furlled sails. At 5.30 got in the launch.

18<sup>th</sup>.Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. Manned yard and saluted.

19<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Fresh breezes. At 4 p.m. sent down topgallant mast and yard. Got in pinnace.

20<sup>th</sup>.Sept. Daylight. Weather fine with fresh breezes. Leave given to petty officers for 48 hours.

21<sup>st</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. scrubbed and washed clothes. At 8.30 secured guns for sea. At 9 sent up topgallant mast and shortened. In cable at 11.30 and weighed anchor. Steamed for Balaclava in company with the chief part of the English fleet. Sunset. English fleet at Balaclava.

22<sup>nd</sup>. Sept. All fleet directed their course along the land towards Eupatoria. Before day, the fleet returned to Balaclava. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. passed the London and the Queen and a French ship with marines and bluejackets dressed in marine jackets and ... to get about (?) the boats and hammock nettings the same as

troops are when they are on board so as to make the enemy believe we had troops on board. This was done to make the enemy come out of their dens. As we passed those ships we were loudly cheered. The cheers were returned by us and others. The Russians did not know what to make of it. We were followed by the enemy cavalry as we were going down their shore, close in, as if we were going to land. At 1.30 came to a French mortar which was throwing shell into a body of enemy troops. At 2.30 anchored at Eupatoria (now Yevpatoriya. Ed.). Admiral went ashore. French making to land troops. At 3.30 loosed all sail. T 5 Admiral returned to the ship.

23<sup>rd</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. Signal made for fleet to weigh. At 11.30 fleet weighed anchor and proceeded to sail along the land o Kimmish creek. Observed lots f Russian troops along the coast. At 6 p.m. anchored off Kimmish creek.

24<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 a.m. got out one pinnace and one launch. At 9 crossed yards and loosed sails. At 5.15 shifted topgallant mast. Sunset. Down royal yard.

25<sup>th</sup>.Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3 a.m. washed clothes. At 9 crossed royal yard and mad preparation for getting sheet anchor in place. At 1.30 unrove purchase. Sunset. Down royal yard.

26<sup>th</sup>.Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. Heard shots fired by the enemy into the town. Shell killed three horses and one man.

27<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. Up royal yard. Nothing particular during the day.

28<sup>th</sup>.Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. got out launch for getting provisions.

29<sup>th</sup> Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. loosed sails. At 11.30 furled sails and gave leave to 80 men.

30<sup>th</sup>. Sept. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed royal yard. At 9.30 Divine Service. In the afternoon leave given to ship's company for ship visits or to go ashore.

1<sup>st</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m. crossed royal yard and loosed sails. At 11.30 furled sails. Sunset. Sent down royal yard.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Hands scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. Made preparations for embarking troops.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. Working party employed on board the Danube steamer and in the dockyard. In the afternoon got in two flat-bottomed boats.

4<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. Got ready for receiving troops. At 11.30 steamer got alongside with 17<sup>th</sup>. Regiment which we received aboard in the afternoon. Got in all boats.

5<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. The Telegraph arrived with dispatches. Got out 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pinnace. At 5.30 got in 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pinnace.

6<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 4 a.m. scrubbed and washed clothes. At 7.30 cleaned all decks. At 8.30 the Rodney sailed for England and was cheered by the Royal Albert. Got out and got in two pinnaces.

7<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. shortened cable. At 10 fleet weighed anchor, both French and English, and towed mortar boats and merchant vessels. The French were towing their floating batteries. At noon made sail. At 5.30 furled sails.

8<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Hazy weather. Made all plain sail. At 11.30 shortened sail and furled. At 4.30 the combined fleet anchored off the troops ashore. They appeared to be hurried about from place to place. I do not think they will sleep much this night. Sunset. Down royal yard.

9<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Foggy weather. At 3 a.m. scrubbed and washed clothes. During the forenoon watch bent stream cable to stream anchor in the main chain.

10<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather foggy. During the forenoon transported stream anchor and secured it under the stern. At sunset sent down topgallant yard and mast.

11<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Fresh breezes. At 4 a.m. topmen commenced rigging splinter netting over quarterdeck and forecastle. At 7.30 commenced sending down topgallant rigging. Unbent small sails, got out 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> pinnaces and got springs along ship's side all ready for action. At 3 p.m. got in both pinnaces.

12<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Fresh breezes. During the forenoon got out one pinnace and sent soldiers' blankets to the Brander steamer. As the wind was increasing the blankets were sent back. Got in the pinnace. Mail arrived from England.

13<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather moderate. Took blankets to small steamers and made preparations for weighing. At 3.30 all boatswains' and carpenters' stores arrived. At 5.30 got in the 1<sup>st</sup>.pinnace.

14<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 45 a.m. lashed up hammocks. At 6 hands up anchor. At 6.30 weighed and breakfast. At 11.30 ship's company got their dinner and cleared away the lower deck's guns for action. The fleet was to go to Kinbourn (?). At 1.30 the fleet anchored off Fort Kinbourn. At 5 p.m. got out all boats. A great number of boats were employed taking soundings off the enemy forts. During the first watch several gunboats ran through the mouth of the river. They had great opposition but no damage was done to our boats.

15<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 3.30 all hands lash up hammocks. At 5 a.m commenced disembarking troops. At 7.30 troop landings commenced. Mortar boats and French mortar steamers throwing shell to keep the enemy back while the troops were landing. At 9 one man fell off the anchor and nearly drowned.

16th. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. The mortar boats opened fire on the enemy and set on fire the village close to the fort.. At 9.30 cleared away for action and loaded all guns with full charge. At 5.30 mortar boats ceased firing and all boats returned to their ships except the flats. All boats were got on board.

17<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 7 a.m. got out all boats. Got the jib boom in and cleared away everything for action. At 9.30 all mortar boats, floating batteries and gunboats opened fire. One of the houses (?) in the walls of Fort Kinbourn was set on fire. The firing soon made the wall of their fort to fall to the ground, but still the enemy kept up their fire and our troops were looking on all the time. They were there to prevent the enemy escaping. At 11 a.m. all hands went to dinner. At 11.30 the Arras gunboat hauled out as both her Lancaster guns had burst and wounded two men. At noon weighed anchor and proceeded slowly towards the fort. At the same time the flying squadron was making its way through the passage leading to the Bug ( a river. Ed.) and they were firing in good style on the enemy. In a few minutes all of the fleet opened fire on the enemy. The firing was terrific. No man could stand to his guns against it but by some accident our spring carried away and that prevented us from firing our broadsides as we should have done if that had not happened. After a few broadsides the signal was made to cease firing



and a flag of truce was sent ashore both by the English and the French. The enemy gave themselves up at once as prisoners of war and we found that we had captured 1400 prisoners. Now we had possession of the whole of the spit which was a great loss to them. The French and the English marines took charge of all the forts all along the spit. They found lots of cattle belonging to the enemy and about three hours after the place was taken they found one Russian in the magazine filling shell and bags of powder for his party to use. He did not know that the place was taken. He was soon made acquainted with how things stood. The Governor was not dismissed as he had fought so bravely. At 3.30 sent all marines ashore. At 4.30 most of the fleet hauled off to their proper anchorages.

18<sup>th</sup>.Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m hands scrub and wash clothes. Two explosions took place on the mainland. This was supposed to be a .... Deserting during the night from that shore and making his way over to the point battery in a boat. He was found by our marines. They made him go into the magazine which they did not like to enter and to clear it out. The poor fellow did with a good heart and gave some very good information about the opposite fort but the enemy blew it up just afterwards. At 2 p.m. hands employed passing shot below and putting the in the proper place.

19<sup>th</sup>.Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. The gunboats proceeded up towards Nicoloff. At 8 a.m. sent the jib boom out and loosed sails. At 3.30 furled sails. At 5 p.m. got in all boats.

20<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. Got out two launches and first pinnace. Got m.... poles aloft. At 5 p.m. got in two launches and the pinnace.

21<sup>st</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Fresh breezes. At 9.30 Divine Service. Nothing of note took place during the day.

22<sup>nd</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. Winter routine commenced in Royal Albert. Turned hand up at 5.30 a.m.to get their breakfast. Afterwards, washed decks. At 9 loosed sails. At 9.30 furled sails. Admiral went up the river Bug in the Danube steamer and returned at 6.30 p.m.

23<sup>rd</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5.30 a.m. scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes.

24<sup>th</sup>.Oct. Nothing of note during the day.

25<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. The Agamemnon sailed for Sebastopol.

26<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. T 9.30 the Glutton ( Glatton ?) floating battery arrived from England. At 2 p.m. the Meteor arrived. Crew aired bedding. At 5 p.m. got in two pinnances.

27<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. Embarked marines from the shore. Got on board a lot of timber that the enemy had for building new forts. At 3 p.m. got in the first pinnace. At 4.50 got in the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Launch. At 6.10 got in the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pinnace.

28<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Foggy. At 9.30 a.m. Divine Service. At 11.15 received information of the Danube steamer aground on the Spit. Turned the hands up and got out the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Launch and the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pinnace, taking 10 inch hawser and kedge anchor to get her off. The Danube got off. The boats returned to the ship at midnight.

29<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Foggy. At 1.30 p.m. fleet loosed sail. The Royal Albert furled sail, exercised making and shortening sail and shifted foretopsail. At 7 got in the two pinnances.

30<sup>th</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 got out all boats and embarked troops for the shore. At 4.50 got in all boats and our two flats.

31<sup>st</sup>. Oct. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 got out 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pinnace and at 5.15 got it in.

1<sup>st</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 7.15 weighed anchor with the fleet with each respective ship taking their marten boats in tow. The Medina was towed by the Royal Albert and the whole fleet steamed towards Odessa. At 9.30 the Medina was ordered to let go as there was a great swell. At noon the fleet shifted course for Sebastopol.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Fresh breezes with heavy swell. At 10.45 fired off leaded guns which could not be drawn. At 8 p.m. anchored off Kemmish Creek with twelve shackle and half out.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. turned hands up to get ready to coal ship. At 7.30 coal ship came alongside and the port watch commenced coaling ship and starboard watch got out all boats and flats. At 11.45 a boatload of bullocks came alongside for killing for the ship's company. At 5.30 p.m. got in first and second pinnaces. The port watch kept coaling all night.

4<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. Still coaling ship at 5.30 a.m. Got out first and second pinnaces. At 7 p.m. got them in again and finished coaling ship. Several cases of drunkenness occurred. It is the men of the coal ship that get our men into trouble.

5<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 watch out all boats and watch below cast off coal ship. Washed lower deck. Watch on deck washed upper and main decks, cleared the after hold, provisioned ship with 3 months' provisions. At 7.30 p.m. got in first and second pinnaces. Watch employed striking down provisions until 10.30 p.m. and then all hands sent to rest for the night.

6<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 4 called second part of forecastlemen and foretop men to strike down provisions. At 9 a.m. loosed sails. At 11.15 furled sails with 3 reefs. At 1.30 called watch to finish striking down provisions. At 5.30 rove hammock rovelines and clotheslines.

7<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. turned hands up. At 6 hands scrub hammocks and wash clothes. At 2 p.m. the French Admiral took his farewell of Admiral Lyon and sailed for France in his own ship, the Montebella along with other French ships. They were cheered by our seamen and answered by the French. A salute fired for the Admiral. At 5 p.m. got in the two pinnaces.

8<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 11 a.m. aired bedding. At 4.50 got in two launches and two pinnaces.

9<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 11 three men punished. At 1.30 served out .....ops (?).

10<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Fresh breezes. At 6 a.m. got out first pinnace. At 11 loosed sails. At 3 p.m. furled sails and loosed again for punishment and keep at it til 4 p.m. At 4.15 got in first pinnace.

11<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5.30 got out second pinnace. At 9 a.m. loosed sails. At 11 furled sails. Agamemnon and Algiers sent up topgallant mast and yard. At 3.30 got in first pinnace. The Telegraph steamer left with General Simpson on board for England. At 9 a.m the Agamemnon and Algiers sailed for Constantinople.

13<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. scrubbed and washed clothes. At 9.50 all middle deck quarters to exercise.

14<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 5 a.m. turned hands up. At 5.30 breakfast. Hands out pinnaces. Port watch shorten in cable. Starboard rove purchase to lift sheet anchor and got port anchor to the bows and steamed into Kimmish Creek and moored ship for the Winter. Afternoon crew still employed mooring ship and put the swivel on the cables.

15<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Weather fine. At 8.30 loosed sails. A party employed putting buoys on anchors. At 1.30 all hands unbend sails and rove toptackle pennants for striking topmast. At 2 p.m. struck topmast and sent in jib boom.

16<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Fresh breezes. Got topsail down on the tops. Painted them fore and aft. Slung mast with chain after unrieving topsail tie.

17<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Fresh breezes. At 5 a.m. all hands lash up hammocks and sway up foretopmast to get the chain properly secured. Got all the spare gear in the tops and stop topmast rigging up and down lower rigging and snaked black stays down lower rigging.

18<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 1.30 p.m. let starboard sheet anchor go. Had it up again, crated (?) it and let it hang a cockbill.

19<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 division and after that Divine Service.. Gave leave for petty officers to go ashore.

20<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Strong breezes with rain squalls. At 5.30 scrub hammocks and wash clothes, but the weather being bad, could not hang them up. At 11 a.m. hung up hammocks and clothes. At 4.50 piped hammocks down and got in pinnace.

21<sup>st</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Fresh breezes. Snow falling. Weather very cold. Got out first pinnace.

22<sup>nd</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 divisions with hammocks. At 1.30 Black Prince came along and 15 tons of water were pumped out of us into her. At 6.30 she hauled aft.

23<sup>rd</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. Commenced painting ship inside. Nothing particular during the day.

24<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Fresh with breezes and rain. At 8.30 the Danube came along to get water.

25<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Squally weather. At 9.30 divisions. Afterwards Divine Service.

26<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Strong breezes and cold weather. At 5 p.m. got in first pinnace.

27<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Strong breezes with snow. At 9 a.m. got out first pinnace.

28<sup>th</sup>.Nov. Daylight. Strong breezes. At 9.30 General Quarters. At 11.30 punishment on board. Three marines punished. At 2 p.m. all hands clear hawse. At 7 the hawse was almost cleared.

29<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 divisions and muster by open list. At 1.30 hands mend and make clothes.

30<sup>th</sup>. Nov. Daylight. Weather fine. At 1.30 observed American ship drifting towards Royal Albert. Foretopman of the watch was sent to board her, weighed her anchor and took her clear of our ship. The remainder of the watch finished clearing the hawse.

1<sup>st</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Strong breezes and cold weather. Anchor watch kept. At noon sent the chief part of the watch tier (?) to get the gangers of sheet cable up.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Strong breezes At 9.30 divisions, afterwards Divine Service. At 2 p.m. a French schooner went aground at Kemmish Point but was towed off by the boats of the fleet. Another vessel sank under Negerer's (?) stern. At noon hoisted first cutter as she was stove.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. The smaller vessels shifted their berths further into the creek.

4<sup>th</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes with rain. At 6 a.m hands scrub hammocks and wash clothes but owing to heavy rain did not hang them up. Wind was increasing. At 9 a.m. port watch commenced cleaning hawse. At 10 a.m. an Austrian brig broke adrift and went aground. At 11.15 starboard watch was called to brace the yard to wind. At 2.45 turned up starboard watch and other idlers to clear hawse. At 5.30 finished hawse and the hands went to ..... Anchor watch kept during the night.

5<sup>th</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Moderate weather. Hung up hammocks and washed clothes.

6<sup>th</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes with rain. Onshore watch kept. Weather grew very bad.

7<sup>th</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Weather changeable. At 8.30 a.m. hung up hammocks. Clothes down and put them in hammock netting as they were not dry.

8<sup>th</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands scrubbed hammocks, washed clothes and afterwards cleared hawse.

9<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes. At 6 a.m. turned watch below up to clear hawse. At 9.30 divisions. At 10.50 Divine Service.

10<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. Admiral Lyons, officers and petty officers and boys went to the funeral of one of the French Captains. Minute guns fired from the Royal Albert. At 4 p.m. we heard that a deserter from this ship was shot which proved true. His name was Bol.....

11<sup>th</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Frosty weather. Court Martial held on board Valorous on the Second Master of the Lynx gunboat for cowardice while being engaged at Kilburne. Sentenced to death. Admiral Lyons was made full Admiral. Caterers of messes are sent by the Negera (?) to Soudjouk- Hale (?) to buy things for Christmas.

12<sup>th</sup>.Dec. Daylight. Strong breezes. Admiral Lyons shifts his flag from red at the mizzen to blue at the main. His flag was saluted by 17 guns. The Simoon arrived with Turkish troops.

13<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes with frosty weather. Snow falling at times. At 10 the Telegraph dispatch arrives ordering the Royal Albert to proceed to Malta. At 1.30 p.m. hands transport sheet anchor to its proper place. Men that were distributed to other ships recalled.

14<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes and cold weather. At 6.45 a.m. turned hands up to get the topmast set and prepare for sea. At 9 a.m topmast up and topsails yard across. At 1.30 p.m. set up topmast rigging. At 4 p.m. bent and furled sails.

15<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes with frost. At 6.45 a.m. got topgallant rigging over the masthead and rove running gear. Rattled down topmast rigging. At 1.30 p.m. got in both launches and rove purchases for transporting sheet anchor to its place. Bent small sails. At 5 p.m. hauled ropes taut and squared yard. At 5.50 part of the watch cleared boat of 9 inch hawser.

16<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes and frosty weather. At 6.30 a.m. turned watch up to clean decks. At 9.45 divisions. And afterwards Divine Service. At 1.30 p.m. turned watch up to get 10 inch and 12 inch hawsers up and hemp stream cable.

17<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Strong breezes with snow. Made preparations for shifting sheet anchor and cable.

18<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes with frost. At 6.30 turned watch up to clean hawse and unmoor ship. At 11 a.m. got port anchor to the hawse but could not clear the backer as the the wind was increasing. Forced to moor the ship again. At 12.15 manned the yards for Commander-in-Chief of the French forces. At 1.20 he went ashore. Manned yard and fired salute of 19 guns. At 4.30 got second launch out. Not wanted so got her in again. During the first watch heavy fall of snow.

19<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Strong breezes with frost very severe and snow falling. At 6 a.m. watch braced the yard to the wind. Anchor watch kept during the day.

20<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Strong breezes with frost. At 8.30 got in second pinnace. Hands unmoored ship, picked up both anchors and let go port anchor. Went to dinner. At 3 p.m. weighed anchor and proceeded to Constantinople. At 3.50 hands made sail. At 5.30 watch furled sails. Weather very cold. A man fell from the fore yard and was very much hurt.

21<sup>st</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Fresh breezes. Weather begins to be finer. Watch made sail with topsails and courses. Watch employed getting sheet cables aft lower deck. At 2 p.m. sent up topgallant mast. Loosed topgallant sails. At 4.50 shortened sail and took in one reef. At 8 p.m. furled sails.

22<sup>nd</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. Quite different weather from what we had at Kimmish. At 9.30 p.m. anchored off Tarapice. Port watch prepared to coal ship. At 11.30 coalship came alongside. And second part commenced coaling. The watch was coaling all night.

23<sup>rd</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 finished coaling ship Hands washed decks. At 8.30 Admiral Lyons struck his flag and when on board the Caradoc, proceeded to England. Was cheered by the ship's company.

24<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9 a.m. crossed royal yards and loosed sails. At 11 furling sails. At 2 p.m. got underway. At 4.15 anchored off the Golden Horn. Man-of-War lying near the Hannibal with the flag of Admiral Stewart and the Queen with the flag of Admiral Gray.

25<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Christmas Day. Clean all decks and went to divisions at 10. Afterwards Divine Service. At 12 o'clock the hands were ordered to play round the lower deck officers. Officers' dinner is done. At 8.15 Captain ..... went round the lower deck and was highly pleased with the behaviour of ship's company.

26<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. At 1.30 Lady Gray came on board sick. Going to Malta.

27<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. Made out the entrance to the Dardanelles and went through the north passage. At noon made sail. At 4.30 p.m. shortened sail and took in one reef in topsails. Afterwards set topmast studding sails. At 10 p.m. took in royals.

28<sup>th</sup>. Dec. At 12.30 a.m. ship sprung a leak. Admiral Gray and Captain appear to be greatly alarmed. At 3 p.m. up all hammocks and stow them in nettings. Sent down topgallant mast and yards. Captain calls all hands aft and tells them that the ship is in jeopardy. He says it is his intention to save the ship if possible by running her on shore. The ship's course was then altered for the island of Zea. All hands furling sails and after man all pumps which was done in cheerful manner. At 8 p.m. entered the harbour of Nicolo and let go both anchors and paid out cable all round ship. On shore is a very snug place and minute guns were fired to call the attention of passing vessels. We hoisted our colours on shore as the harbour was so snug for fear that they would not notice our ship. All hands employed, one part on the pumps and the other part getting stream anchor out on port quarter and hawsers from the masthead to the shore to keep the ship from keeling over. Part of the crew employed clearing out the bread as the water was wetting it. The carpenters tried to stop the leak. Hoisted out boats. A passing steamboat was attracted by our firing and came in to see what was the matter. We sent Lieutenant Bryant in her to Athens for assistance. At noon hawsed topmast. At 5 p.m. the port watch left off pumping as the donkey pump in the engine room was able to keep her free. At 6 p.m. served



out extra allowance of grog. Our engines were forced to keep going for by doing so they kept the water from coming in so fast. The authorities put our ship into quarantine on account of the ..... fever (?).

29<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. Watch employed in getting hemp cable ashore for a bowfast. At 9 a.m the Sphinx came alongside. At 10 a.m. put 8 upper deck guns aboard her. At 11.30 the Princess Royal arrived to the assistance of her royal parent !

30<sup>th</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 divisions. Afterwards, Divine Service for one watch. The other watch was employed picking oakum, and as the first watch was relieved, they had to pick oakum. Carpenters employed building a dam around the leak.

31<sup>st</sup>. Dec. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6 a.m. turned hands up and sent topmast up and set rigging. Afterwards called watch. Watch below hauled in hawsers and afterwards manned the pumps to see if the dam will answer, but it proved a failure.

1<sup>st</sup> January 1856. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 called watch. Cleaned decks, then quarters for inspection. At 9 a.m watch manned the pumps to see if the dam would now answer but it proved unsuccessful. The water was gaining and getting into the after magazine. Watch employed clearing it out. At 1.30 watch called to pick oakum and some hands from each of the ships on shore scrubbing hammocks.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. The ship is out of quarantine. Officers allowed to go to the town. At 5 a.m. turned hands up. At 6 watch up to man the pumps and watch below to get in hemp cable and afterwards to haul hawsers taut. Stopped the engine. Loosed main and mizzen topsails. Then hands man the fan purchases. Block split and hit one man in the leg and hurt him very much. The block was replaced and fan hove up. All hove guns run aft. At 11 the ship is afloat once more. Hands employed taking in slack of both cables. Replaced guns. At 1.30 turned hands up to unreeve purchases which were used for heaving ship off. Cleanup on all decks. Heave in stream cable and bighted both cables. Restored bread as the leak was partly stopped by the dam At 3.30 the Sphinx came alongside. Watch employed getting the guns out of her. As soon as they were out, she hauled aft. At 4.30 got in first launch, squared yard, then piped to supper. The donkey engine pump is continually at work and just keeps her free.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 turned hands up. Sent up topgallant mast and yard. Starboard watch up screw. Port watch unmoor ship and got the

starboard anchor. Starboard watch hauled in hawsers and got up stream cable for towing. At 1.30 called port watch to shorten in cable and get the anchor to the hawse. Were taken in tow by the Sphinx. Princess Royal in company but during the night the pumps were kept manned by the watch. At 3.15 the donkey pump was set in motion with two fire engines attached to it to keep the ship free.

4<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 watch braced round yard and set jib and foresail. At 6.45 watch bend fore and main topsails. At 9 a.m. shortened sail, furled headsails and foresail. Sent down topgallant and yards, then part of the watch employed stowing tierces. At 3.30 heavy fall of rain. At 7 the rain abated.  
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5<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Cleaned all decks. At 10.30 starboard watch employed at the pumps as the donkey pump is choked. Prepared to coal ship. At 11 first part of the starboard watch commenced getting up coals on the lower deck. At noon second part of the starboard watch called to coal the Sphinx steamer. Got out first launch and first pinnace and lowered both quarter boats and gave the Sphinx 500 bags of coal. At 5 p.m. got in first launch and first pinnace and finished coaling. At 5.30 donkey pump put in motion again. That was a great relief to the men.

6<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. 6.15 hands up topgallant mast and yard and made plain sail. At 8 a.m. crossed royal yard and set topmast topgallant studding sail. Cast off hawsers from the Sphinx. Watch below hauled them in. At 10.50 went to divisions. At 11.50 took in topmast and topgallant studding sails and royals. At 2 p.m. Divine Service. At 5 p.m. took in two reefs in topsails and took in topgallant sails.

7<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 shortened and furled sails. Sphinx took Royal Albert in tow. We are now 9 miles off Malta. At 10 a.m. moored ship in dockyard creek. Man-of-War in harbour, the Hibernia, bearing the flag of Admiral Stockford. The Agamemnon, the Algiers, Princess Royal, the Valorous and four gunboats.

8<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6 a.m. turned hands up to finish mooring and Captain Mends (?) for England. Unreeved running gear, unbent all sails and made preparations to get the guns out. At 5.30 went to quarters and unrove all gun gear.

9<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 8 a.m turned both watches up to get the guns out and during the day got all the lower deck guns and sent all the running gear ashore and all the lower deck gun carriages.

10<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 6.30 turned hands up to get guns out. One party to go ashore and land guns and return gear and the other party to get out provisions and coals.

11<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Weather fine. All hands at work getting out guns and provisions and coals. Unshipped the rudder this day. Finished with provisions, guns and coal.

12<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed stowing spars as far forward as possible to bring the ship a little down by the bow. At 1.30 sent down topsail yard and hawsed topmast but main topsail yard came down by the run and went overboard but did no damage. During the afternoon the Hannibal arrived with the flag of Admiral Stewart.

13<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Cleaned all decks. At 9.30 divisions and afterwards Divine Service. At 1.30 p.m. first part of starboard watch shifted in working dress to bail out water out of the main hold. Paid money to ship's company.

14<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Ship's company shifts over to Hibernia. At 1.30 leave is given to the first part of the port watch and second part of starboard watch for four days.

15<sup>th</sup>. Jan. No entry.

16<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed warping ship to the dock. At 1 p.m. got out the fan by the shears of Malta dockyard and then took the ship into the dock.

17<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed getting topmast rigging off the masthead ready for re-fitting.

18<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed at various duties about the ship. Liberty men returned to the ship.

19<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed rigging shears for lifting mainshaft. At 4.30 second part of watch and first part of starboard watch went on leave. The remainder of the hands employed cleaning all decks.

20<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 a.m. went to divisions and after that Divine Service. At 1.30 gave leave to any that wished to go ashore until the following morning.

21<sup>st</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine, At 6.30 all hands went to the dockyard to get out the mainshaft and get it onshore. At 11.30 got the shaft out and found it greatly damaged and all the race and tube destroyed.

22<sup>nd</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Crew employed at various duties on board the Royal Albert.

23<sup>rd</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed refitting ship.

24<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed getting out main tube and made preparations for setting main rigging and getting the ship out of dock.

25<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 4 a.m. turned hands up and went to breakfast. At 5 a.m. sent starboard watch to dockyard. At 6 the port watch went to dockyard. Got the ship out of dock. We were towed by two steamers to mooring in the Grand Harbour. Then cleared up decks and left 55 hands as ship-keepers on board. The starboard watch then went on leave for 24 hours.

26<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Wet weather. During the morning dockyard lighter brought ..... lower anchor alongside and crated (?) it and hung it to the cathead and lowered the port anchor into the lighter and 5 shackles of cable which was laid out for .... of mooring. At 1.30 wet weather. Hands employed washing decks.

27<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. At 9.30 went to divisions and after that Divine Service. In the afternoon general leave to the ship's company.

28<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Crew employed refitting ship and setting up rigging. Fiddled mizzen topmast. Topmast rigging was set up. Weather cloudy with rain.

29<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather wet. Rain fell heavily after daylight. At 6.15 a.m. scrubbed hammocks and washed clothes. Then sent starboard watch on board

Royal Albert and port watch to clean hulk's middle and lower decks. At 1.30 first part of starboard watch went on leave for 24 hours and the rest of the crew was employed rattling down rigging. The Miranda arrived in harbour.

30<sup>th</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Hands employed rattling down rigging. At 1.30 p.m. second part of starboard watch went on leave for 24 hours. The crew on board got topsail yard inboard and rove new topsail lifts fore and aft as well as braces.

31<sup>st</sup>. Jan. Daylight. Weather fine. Finished rattling down rigging. All hands mustered by open list, then crew was employed stowing boom. Collins the Coastguard was very much hurt by the topsail yard slipping and giving him a squeeze. Forced to send him to hospital. At 2 p.m. sent up topsail yard and booms and got jib boom out and gave leave to first part of port watch.

*Here ends the manuscript in my possession, being 11/1/1855 to 31/1/1856. Another portion of this account in the possession of Violet Warner is now attached in typewritten format. That account commences on July 1<sup>st</sup>. 1856. There is therefore a gap in the narrative of February 1<sup>st</sup> 1856 to 30<sup>th</sup>. June 1856 inclusive.*

*Notes on diary kept by John Vincent Rohu during his service in the Crimean War.*

*J.V.'s Service Record shows that he was Coastguard til 5<sup>th</sup>. March 1854. He joined Price Regent on 6<sup>th</sup>. March 1854, transferred to the Royal Albert on 23<sup>rd</sup>. November, was discharged from the Royal Albert on 20<sup>th</sup>. August 1856 and resumed Coastguard duties that same day. The Bible of Mary Anne Rohu, his wife is inscribed Elly Bay October 7<sup>th</sup>. 1856, so we conclude that J.V., at the end of the Crimean war, was posted to that Coastguard Station when paid off at Queenstown (now Cobh), Co.Cork, money in hand on 17<sup>th</sup>. August 1856, but officially on 20<sup>th</sup>. August 1856.*

*The Royal Albert was a ship of 107 guns, date of building unrecorded, but converted to steam propulsion in 1852. The ship was the Flagship of Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons for the purposes of the Black Sea campaign in 1855. The dimensions of the ship were as follows:-  
Length. 230 ft. Width. 60 ft. 10 in.*

*It will be noticed that that part of the diary which has been contributed by Violet Warner is in two respects different from the first part which is in my possession.*

1. *Typed by David Barton in a different format, and*
2. *David elected to preserve the original manuscript mis-spellings and faulty grammar.*

*In typing up the first part, I corrected most of the spellings and some of the grammar. Nevertheless, I must say that I did not encounter anything near to the blunders which David has preserved in his document.*

*Though I have tried to account for this, I am at a loss.*

*David Barton's part of the diary mention that J.V.R. came home from the Crimea on board the Algiers. J.V.R.'s official Service Record from Naval sources does not recognise this and has him on board the Royal Albert until discharge. Perhaps was neater for the authorities to leave him officially on his ship and to omit the means by which he was brought home to Ireland ?*

