

OPERATIONS IN ASIA MINOR.

THE CIRCASSIAN COUNTER-MOVEMENT— MUKHTAR PASHA'S POSITION.

LONDON, May 29.—A special dispatch from Vienna to the *Times* says: "To the south of Soukgeum-Kaleh, a detachment is concentrated under Gen. Alebasoff, to prevent a Turco-Circassian force moving along the shore into the plains of Mingrelia. If they did so now the positions of the Russians in the rear of Soukgeum-Kaleh and Adler would soon become untenable. As yet the descent of the Turks and Circassians is only an inconvenience, but should the movement reach the Tschitkens, whose revolt in Terek does not yet seem quite suppressed, then it might become a real danger to the Russian lines of communication in the Caucasus."

The *Standard's* Constantinople dispatch says: "The fall of Ardahan and Bayazid has enabled the Russians to march in two converging lines toward Erzeroum. They have turned Erzeroum, and Mukhtar Pasha must either accept battle against a vastly superior force or capitulate. If he is beaten, Erzeroum must fall, for it is without fortifications, and the force in it is small."

A Reuter's dispatch from Constantinople says: "Intelligence from Soukgeum-Kaleh states that the Russians have evacuated and the Turks occupied the fortress of Zil. The Russians have evacuated the whole coast line of the Abazes country."

LONDON, May 30.—The *News* correspondent at Vienna asserts that the council of war at Constantinople have resolved to treat operations in the Caucasus as of paramount importance. Five thousand Circassians are ready for embarkation. Seven thousand men are intended for Anapa. Ships conveying them will take divers to pick up torpedoes at the entrance of the Sea of Azoff. Mukhtar Pasha has been placed under the control of Djeni Pasha, who was officially sent from Constantinople.

The New York Times

Published: May 30, 1877

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