

The Founders of Russian Power in the Crimea and Black Sea.

It is a curious fact, and not generally known, that the founders of Russian power at Sebastopol were two foreigners. The first of those distinguished men was Marshal Lacy, an Irishman in the service of Russia. By a master stroke of generalship he effected a passage across an arm of the sea which, at certain seasons, he discovered to be partially fordable, seized upon the Isthmus of Perekop, and, by a series of brilliant victories, conquered the Crim Tartars, then a most formidable military power, and thereby transferred the sovereignty of the Crimea to the Czars of Russia. He belonged to that class of daring spirits whom English misrule had driven from Ireland, and whose swords had frequently carved out for themselves a path to glory and distinction on the great battle-fields of Europe. What a strange coincidence, that the labors of an exiled Irishman, after the lapse of so many years, should be productive of so much ruin and disaster to England. Such are the ever recurring morals which the great cycle of events brings to our notice.

The other celebrated character in this historic drama was Admiral PAUL JONES, to whose genius and intrepidity this Republic is so large a debtor. He was a Scotchman, driven by his own private wrongs and natural bent into a foreign service. It was his good fortune to have fought the gallant fight in defence of human freedom, and to have made *our* flag respected and *his* name feared, in the maritime strongholds of England. Americans may dwell with some degree of pride on the fact that Admiral PAUL JONES it was who disciplined the Russian Black Sea fleet, and to that stern and thoroughly scientific discipline, maintained and handed down by subsequent Russian Admirals, the determined and prolonged defence of Sebastopol is mainly due. The fleet supplied the batteries with gunners, whose bravery and unerring skill have been acknowledged even by the enemy. Well may the gallant old tar lie easy in his grave, for he has done good service in his time to the cause of "*civilization*," and left behind him pupils worthy of his fame.

There is another circumstance connected with the defence of Sebastopol worthy of note. A large proportion of the machinery and metal work used in the fortifications, and said to be the best of their kind, have been manufactured in England. How things do change, and what strange occurrences sometimes take place! The fortifications of Sebastopol, it is well known, were erected in part by an English engineer.