

Serkan YAZICI¹

THE CRIMEAN WAR AND THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE IN THE EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

Europeans experienced many things for the first time in their history between 1853 and 1856. It was a time of intense technological development. For instance, the railways and telegraph were actively used for the first time in a war. It was, equally importantly, the first time the Ottoman Empire became a part of a European coalition with England, France and the Kingdom of Sardinia against Imperial Russia during the Crimean War. Like other developments, for the first time newspapers followed the war and reported daily about events to their readers (using the newly viable telegraph technology). So the Crimean War can also be considered the first war about which correspondents of newspapers gave daily details. The western press was an alliance unto itself, in a way Newspapers which had a large correspondence networks, like *The Times*, were quoted so often by others that news sharing (like we understand the Associated Press and Reuters) found its nascent period during the war. Focusing on the newspapers, like *The Times*, *The Manchester Guardian*, *The Observer*, *Journal des Débats*, *La Presse*, *New York Daily Times*, *New York Daily Tribune*, *Hartford Daily Courant*, the research aims to investigate reflections of the Crimean War found in the Western press.

The developments that occurred in the first half of the 19th century revealed that the Ottoman Empire had lost its traditional power. During the rebellions of the Balkan nations and the Mehmet Ali crisis the weaknesses of the empire became more obvious. Russia gave military support to the Ottomans during the Egyptian crisis in the 1830's and to Europe against revolutionary movements of 1848 and 1849. Through these engagements, Russia solidified its role as the gendarme of the continent. During these two decades, the integrity of the Ottoman and Austrian Empires had been maintained by Russia who had described these two Empires as "sick man". For the Austrian Empire this phrase would be forgotten soon, but for the Ottoman

¹ Assist. Prof. Dr., Sakarya University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of History.

Empire this phrase was continued to be used until the ultimate collapse of the Empire. The “*sick man*”, in terms of Russia, was a way of viewing the “Eastern Question” Tsar Nicola thought that Ottoman collapse was approaching soon and the great powers had to think about its heritage and the possible post-collapse chaos. But England, France and Austria did not find this offer, of allying with Russia, to be logical or attractive. They preferred a wait-and-see policy and positioned themselves tentatively on the Ottoman side. But it was clear to everybody that Russia and the Ottoman Empire were on the eve of a great war.

There were many diplomatic problems between the Ottoman Empire and Russia such as dominion over the Bosphorus, and role as protectorate of Orthodox Christianity... These issues alone would be enough for a war. But the question of “the Holy Lands” became the most important political conflict between these two empires by the middle of the 19th century. Russia was discontented about the policy of the Ottoman Empire that tried to moderate France and Russia simultaneously in the Holy Lands conflict².

The high tension, directly reflected in the press, between two empires was evident when Russia occupied Moldavia and Wallachia (principalities in modern Romania) in June 1853. One of the newspapers in which the reactions of England and France were seen was French journal, *Moniteur*³. In the report, dated July 9th, 1853 the Parisian ambassador of the Ottoman Empire, Rifat Veliyüddin, gave details about the political atmosphere to the potential ally through reports collected from journals. This made the French/Ottoman diplomatic relations renewed warmth. An ambassadors’ meeting was held at Vienna, the original text of their declaration against Russia and the Ottoman Empire was published in London newspaper, *The Times*. The same day, according to telegraphs from Istanbul, the Sultan sent his warmest thanks to the Austrian Emperor for his efforts towards the preservation of the peace. Despite this, preparations for a war were going on. 30.000 soldiers were mobilized by an imperial decree (*irade*) of Sultan Abdulmecid⁴. Also, *The Times* correspondent in

² Kezban Acar, *Resimlerle Rusya, Savaşlar ve Türkler*, Ankara 2004, p. 11.

³ BOA. HR. MKT. 61/13.

⁴ *The Times*, 1 September 1853, p. 7.

Istanbul added that there was no possibility of negotiation regarding Menschikoff's proposal to the Sultan⁵. Menschikoff's visit to Istanbul and his proposals also provoked public opposition against Russia in England. First, on the 5th of June in London, and then on the 22th of September in 1853 at Sheffield, English citizens held meetings in order to protest Russia's "warlike occupation at Turkish territories"⁶.

About fifteen days later a possible war between Russia and Turkey was revived in the European press. One of these journals, *Neue Preußische Zeitung*, comparing armies, argued possible outcomes of a war. According to some journalists, the Russian army was in a better condition and that in the case of a war, the defeat of the Ottoman Empire would not take long. The journalists claimed that in the coming winter there would be a few skirmishes that might possibly take place at frontier outposts. While the time for war was approaching, it is opined in the German press that the Ottoman Empire would be ready to pay any price to protect peace⁷. In contrast to the optimism in the German press, the situation in Istanbul was totally different. An 80.000 soldiers, infantry, cavalry, and artillery army mixed with volunteers was mobilized towards Edirne (Adrianople)⁸.

Diplomatic efforts, doomed to fail, mean that eventually Sultan Abdulmecid declared war against Russia on October 20th of 1853. England and France were not in the war at the beginning; but they were waiting very near the Bosphorus with their navies. The defeat of the Ottoman navy in Sinop Port motivated England and France to enter the war. The ships, some ironclad and others impressive Ships of the Line, were among the other dominant technological advances. Actually almost all the Ottoman warships, while anchored, were de-

⁵ The Times, 1 September 1853, p. 8.

⁶ The Times, "Russia and Turkey, Public Meeting at Sheffield", 22 Eylül 1853, p. 12. In an Ottoman archival document about the Crimean War that was sent from Istanbul involves the instructions to London based ambassador of Ottoman Empire, Kostaki Musurus Pasha, what he should do in order to affect English public opinion. Among these instructions the most interesting suggested reaching some influential people on English community, organising some meetings and to not hesitate spending required money for all these BOA. HR. SYS. 903/226.

⁷ The Times, "Thoughts on a War between Russia and Turkey", From *Neue Preußische Zeitung*, 6 October 1853, p. 8.

⁸ The Times, 20 October 1853, p. 7.

stroyed by Russians and it was recognized as the *casus belli* for England and France⁹. The Author of one of the most famous books on the Crimean War Harold Temperly discusses the biases of press in these days:

*“The pressmen were only human, and some, though not all, were misled. But if they were divided as to the cause of resignation they were unanimous about the ‘massacre’ Palmerstone’s organ, The Morning Post said Sinope was a ‘violent outrage’ calling for ‘immediate war’. The Morning Herald thought it ‘a damning disgrace’ calling for revenge. The Globe declared Russia ‘not accessible to the ordinary motives of the rest of the human family’ and reproved even ‘the regretted Lord Palmerstone’ for assuming that she was. The laggards trooped into the fold where The Times had already shown them the way. The Morning Chronicle decided to, ‘strike down the aggressor’ and the hitherto detached Manchester Guardian said war would be precipitated”*¹⁰.

Joining the war and allying with Ottoman Empire against Russia was presented like a humanitarian duty in the English press. According to the *Morning Chronicle* it was portrayed as a kind of sacred duty or obligation¹¹. But soon the British public started to talk about the real reasons of England’s entrance into the war. Also the *New York Daily Times* did not hesitate to write about this fact in the article entitled, “The Disinterested Allies of Turkey”. From its text:

“All the world knows and Sultan himself must be aware that Allies of Turkey are acting in behalf of their own interests and for their own safety, while masking their real intentions with the warmest professions of disinterestedness and magnanimity. They proclaim the integrity of the Ottoman Empire as the sole object they have in view, and declare that the balance of political power in Europe forbids the dismemberment or overthrow of that realm”. After these words in the article, historical examples were given of how the European Powers drive the Ottoman Empire for their own benefits¹².

⁹ La Presse, 13 December 1853, p. 1.

¹⁰ Harold Temperly, *England and the Near East The Crimea*, London 1936, p. 374–375.

¹¹ Alan Palmer, *Son Üç Yüz Yıl Osmanlı İmparatorluğu*, *Istanbul* 1992, p. 134.

¹² *New York Daily Times*, 24 July 1854, p. 4.

Leading newspapers of the allied powers paid great attention to the war. Telegraphs, coming from various cities of Europe, were describing all the developments of war and debates in political circles. It was possible to read the details of daily events and news about the war from Istanbul, Mostar, Vienna, Bucharest and Paris¹³. As time went on, the latitude of news in journals also changed. At the beginning of the war the news entitled “Russia and Turkey” took place in one or two columns. But when England and France became part of the war, a few columns on the first pages and also inside of newspapers more pages were allotted to the Crimean War and general information about Crimea like its geography etc.¹⁴. This situation went through the first months of 1855. If there was no extraordinary event in Crimea, the news from the front were of the daily political agenda of the country. The English journal, *The Observer*, summarised the events in its tenth page by the title of “*Summary of Operation in the Crimea*”. In one of these summarises optimistic and cynical viewpoints alike pointed towards a siege of Sebastopol which would later involve over eighty thousand English and French soldiers (excluding Turkish troops)¹⁵. Under the shadow of unending Northern rains, winds and disease, the siege dragged on and ultimately Russia could not withstand the siege.

Psychological warfare also appeared in the journals. For instance, Imam Shamil’s resistance helped the Ottomans against Russia in the Caucasus. The English newspapers prepared some news about the problems between Russia and the Circassians¹⁶. When the battles passed to the Crimean Gulf, in the dispatches sent to Ömer Pasha, the sympathy of Tartar community was mentioned. According to these dispatches, “*The circumstance has produced a deep impression on the Tartar population*”¹⁷. The Language which is used in newspapers, particularly in English ones, was also confident and perky. A rushed Russian attack was reflected on by The Manchester Guardian with these words: “...yesterday night the Russian again made a sortie on

¹³ The Manchester Guardian, “Russia and Turkey”, 5 August 1854, p. 5.

¹⁴ Journal Des Debats, 7 August 1854, p. 1–2.

¹⁵ The Observer, 7 January 1855, p. 10.

¹⁶ The Manchester Guardian, “The Operations on the Circassian Coast”, 5 August 1854, p. 5.

¹⁷ The Observer, “Despatches to Omar Pasha”, 2 October 1854, p. 3.

the French lines, which as usual, was repulsed..."¹⁸. What is more, lots of mercy could be seen in the language of *The Times*. A letter argues the position of Odessa in the war and gives examples of the situation and social psychology of the days: "*Spare Odessa! Does Mercy, does justice, does convenience demand it? Mercy like charity (which is the same), must begin at home. To protect the Russian population is to relieve the Russian soldier from that duty, and deliberately to murder our own soldiers. Justice can ask for Odessa at the utmost not more than for a neutral town, and has Odessa been neutral in this Crimean War? The convenience of the existence of Odessa has all been on the Russian side. But why must we spare anything Russian?*"¹⁹. Among the reasons for using such language in journals was creating a psychological resistance and keeping the social support for the war. But also newspapers were sent to the war zone, so news and comments had an effect on the morale of the soldiers²⁰. *Journal Des Debats* was so careful in order to avoid making reading in the war zone upset (a price increase was forthcoming too). According to the explanation of the newspaper the reason for the increase was because of increase of mail prices.

Among the battles of Crimean War, the siege of Sebastopol had a special importance because of its duration and immense level of struggle in and around the city. By the words of *The Observer* "...it is evident from the efforts which both Russians and the allies are making that the siege of Sebastopol will be one of the most bloody and forcibly-contested struggles of which have any record"²¹. The evaluation of the newspaper was truly right. The hardest part of the Crimean War and an indelible part of Russian war history took place at Sebastopol. Even in the first telegrams from Sebastopol, wherein 4.000 Ottoman soldiers went for patrolling after a sub-battle – the allied losses became apparent. ²² A French journal was estimated the number of Russian troops would reach to about 76.000 by November 20th, 1854.

¹⁸ The Manchester Guardian, "The Crimea: The Siege of Sebastopol", 3 January 1855, p. 2.

¹⁹ The Times, "Why Spare Odessa", 21 November 1854, p. 6.

²⁰ Journal Des Debats, 10 September 1855, p.1.

²¹ The Observer, Siege Operations Before Sebastopol, 30 October 1854, p. 2.

²² La Presse, 21 October 1854, p. 1.

It was hard to capture some strategic places for the Allies. One of these places was the Malakhoff Tower which was 850 metres high and 150 metres in breadth. Dispatches of General Conrobert to the French journal of *Moniteur* on March 29th were reflecting the struggle: “In the sortie which the enemy made in the night between 22d and 23d of March against our works in front of the Malakhoff Tower, they were vigorously repulsed, with a loss of 2.000 men killed or wounded. Our loss did not exceed 600 men”²³. The region, which has great importance for Russian defence, also was under sustained attacks of the Allies during 1855²⁴. As time went on the prolongation of the siege had caused new debates. A publication of *The Times*, seen after some loss of Allies at Sebastopol, along with the *New York Daily Tribune*, alleged English and French papers for creating a pressure of success on army and panic among citizens²⁵.

The Crimean War developed relations between Ottoman Empire and European states. The Ottoman Empire, as a part of western coalition, hosted a lot of European elites during the war. Among these important people of note included the brother of Austrian Emperor Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, two sons of King of Belgium²⁶. Besides them, French Crown Prince Napoléon was also one of guests of the Ottoman Sultan. Sultan Abdulmecid accepted Prince Napoléon escorted by a Spanish general on November 27th, 1854²⁷. England became close to different Muslim groups. The first step towards an alliance against Persia had been taken by England and the Emir of Afghanistan Dost Muhammed Khan²⁸.

During the war some infrastructure had also been constructed by the Allies. In addition to the current railways, the Allies constructed new lines around the camps of their armies. One of these railways was in Balaclava which was finished in six weeks by using 10.000

²³ The Manchester Guardian, 7 April 1855, p. 5.

²⁴ Henry Tyrrell, *The History of the War with Russia: Giving Full Details of the Operations of the Allied Armies*, London 1855, Vol. II, p. 276–278.

²⁵ New - York Daily Tribune, 27 November 1854, p. 5.

²⁶ Besim Özcan, “Kırım Harbi Sırasında Bazı Avrupalı Devlet Adamlarının Osmanlı Ülkesini Ziyaretleri (1854-1855)”, *OTAM*, Vol. 9, Ankara 1998, p. 287–321.

²⁷ La Presse, 9 December 1854, p. 1.

²⁸ La Presse, 15 December 1854, p. 1.

tonnes of iron²⁹. Railways were not the only infrastructure works at war zone. Another big work was construction of telegraphic communication. To bring that project to fruition meant laying cables under the sea between Varna and Balaclava some English engineers were involved. All Ottoman civil servants were warned against hindering English Engineers at Turkish ports³⁰. Also an English ship left from England in order to lay electric cables under the sea. This line would provide faster telegraph communication from the warzone to Paris and London. A French journal, which says that the length of line was 400 miles, also added at the end of the news some words to motivate the Allies: “*Here it is the newest products of modern industries on service of the nations of continent...*”³¹. The Ottoman general Ömer Pasha rendered his thanks to the Royal Engineers for their endeavours and for facilitating his armies’ works³². Not only did the ships carry materials like cables or rails, they carried soldiers and armaments to the Crimea. The citizens of Allied powers also sent aid to the front. Among the aid there were beverages along with garments sent for keeping soldiers warm. 350 cases of preserved goods and 1000 gallons ale were among the aid collected from the public meetings³³. The aid for the widows and orphans left behind by casualties of the war continued to be collected even after the war³⁴.

In the first quarter of 1855, western journals continue writing columns against Russia. For instance the French Emperor said that his army will never turn back to France without taking the control of Sebastopol. On the other hand the coalition was enlarged by the joining of the Kingdom of Sardinia³⁵.

By the coming of autumn some claims about coming winter began to be seen in journal columns³⁶. Larger numbers of soldiers meant an increase in disease³⁷. Cholera became a tragedy which goes beyond

²⁹ La Presse, 9 December 1854, p. 1.

³⁰ BOA. İ. HR. 5709.

³¹ Journal des Débats Politiques et Littéraires, 18 January 1855, p. 1.

³² The Observer 12 February 1855, p. 5.

³³ The Times, “Crimean Army Found”, 05 January 1855, p. 6.

³⁴ The Times, 7 Haziran 1856, p. 12.

³⁵ The Manchester Guardian, 28 March 1855, p. 4.

³⁶ The Observer, 2 October 1854, p. 3.

³⁷ The Manchester Guardian, 5 August 1854, p. 4.

the war zone. At the end of 1854 disease spread to the frontiers of Athens³⁸. At the beginning of 1855 cities, including Istanbul, turned to big infirmaries. Although there were some field hospitals at war zone, Shkodra, Rodos, Izmir became centers for health care of soldiers³⁹. In newspapers at the beginning of the summer of 1855, there was no extraordinary news except for the problem of disease⁴⁰. Losses of Allies grew at an alarming level. After reaching English losses up to 10.000, English journal of Morning Post mentioned its anxiety about resting an army at Crimea one year more⁴¹.

Russian Resistance under the siege also began to destroy the motivation of allies. Hints of French-English bickering were seen in the American press. After a war, which lasted two years, all possibilities for England and France were on the table - like losing the war or losing the traditional power arrangement. The question of the day was, “*How Stands the Alliance between France and England now?*”⁴². New York newspapers were looking in search of a sensation. Some gossip of unhappiness of the Ottoman General Ömer Pasha for allying with English and French were written at *New York Daily Tribune*. According to the news, Ömer Pasha turned back to *Istanbul* and wanted to be sent to Asia instead of Crimea⁴³. Of course the American newspapers were not the only source of sad news. Dispatches of General Simpson published at *London Gazette* were also depressing. The General began with apologies for his words and giving sad news, and then claimed that due to slowness of construction of fortification work under the Russian bombardment things were going poorly⁴⁴.

Good news for Allies came sooner than the dissolution of their coalition. Sebastopol fell in September. The news about the marching of allied troops the day before was the herald of success⁴⁵. According

³⁸ Journal des Débats Politiques et Littéraires, 10 December 1854, p. 1.

³⁹ The Manchester Guardian, 10 February 1855, p. 5.

⁴⁰ The Manchester Guardian, “The Crimea: The Siege of Sebastopol”, 30 June 1855, p. 5.

⁴¹ La Presse, “On lit dans le Morning Post”, 22 July 1855, p. 1.

⁴² New York Daily Times, “How Stands the Alliance between France and England now!”, 24 July 1855, p. 4.

⁴³ New York Daily Tribune, “The State of Europe”, 9 August 1855, p. 5.

⁴⁴ The Manchester Guardian, 4 August 1855, p. 1.

⁴⁵ Journal des Débats Politiques et Littéraires, 10 September 1855, p. 1.

to news brought by the Boyona steamship from, Sebastopol city was captured after a peerless bombardment. And also according to information looks “quite possible or even totally right” from the Vienna Embassy of Russia Prince Gortschakoff, Russian withdrawal from Batchiserai, Simperepol and Perekop was confirmed. A commission was held for the sake of accounting for the property and ammunitions left by the Russian Army. The language of journals quickly changed, the news of Allies victory were more glowing: “*Heroic Ally forces were at Eupatoria, Sebastopol and everywhere anymore*”⁴⁶.

The fall of Sebastopol created a great enthusiasm in the western world. It was celebrated in a wide area from Anatolia to Britannia. Lady Hornby, who narrates her memoirs in Istanbul during the Crimean war, states that the fall of the city was announced with salvos and Greeks who thought their benefit was in the Russian victory were not glad to hear the news at all⁴⁷.

In England the celebrations changed the shape of the media landscape. As Glasgow newspapers stated, one feast after another in honour of Sebastopol’s occupation was prepared. The of festival was decked with the English, Ottoman, French and Sardinian flags and with the names of victorious commandants like Omar Pasha, Raglan, St. Arnaud, Simpson and Colin Chambell. The glasses were raised in a toast in the memory of the casualties. Similar fellowship showed between allied states⁴⁸. According to the news from *The Moniteur*, Ottoman Sultan Abdulmecid was going to donate the income of Ottoman goods which were sold in 1855 in a Paris exhibit to the orphans and widows left behind by the French soldiers who died during the Crimean war⁴⁹.

However, the war had not finished completely. According to the news from *The Daily News*; after stating his army’s misery, Prens Gorçakoy asked Tzar Alexander which option to choose: whether to fight with the troops he still had or to evacuate Crimea⁵⁰. Even if there was Russian originated news saying that Russian Army was in a good

⁴⁶ La Presse, 20 September 1855, p. 1.

⁴⁷ Lady Hornby, *Kırım Savaşında İstanbul*, Istanbul 2007, p. 46.

⁴⁸ The Manchester Guardian, “Crimean War at Glasgow”, 15 October 1855, p. 4.

⁴⁹ The Manchester Guardian, 15 December 1855, p. 4.

⁵⁰ The Manchester Guardian, “The Crimea”, 26 October 1855, p. 1.

condition in the Belgian newspaper *Nord*, the Western alliance thought they lowered the enemy's guard. The good news were coming from all the fronts of eastern Kars⁵¹. Not all papers had such optimistic reports. The *Hartford Daily Courant* complained about laziness of the allied armies as well as their spending time to be in peace and safe during the winter⁵².

By 1855, alliance forces started to turn back to their countries in parts. Military troops turning back to Paris, where state offices suspended, formed a cortege of kilometres long. People welcomed the soldiers and windows were ornamented. Lists of troops coming back were catching eyes in the newspapers⁵³. Istanbul and surrounding places served as an infirmary in December. Wounded and sick soldiers pour into Haydarpasa, Kuleli, even Izmit which was a district of Istanbul that time⁵⁴. Especially soldiers from Egypt and Tunisia were the victims of the harsh Crimean climate. Only 2.300 out of approximately 20.000 Egyptian and 3.000 out of approximately 10.000 Tunisian soldiers, who were defeated not by the war itself but by the harsh climate conditions, survived. They were in hospitals because of fever and various epidemics. On the other side, according to the information received from Russian resources, the Russian army, fighting on many fronts at the same time, needed more soldiers especially in the northern fronts like the Baltics. Truce was imminent⁵⁵.

According to the Western newspapers, the Russian army lost all its positions. French engineers were destroying citadels/castles like Fort Nicholas and Fort Alexander which surrounded Sebastopol in order to devastate its defensive position permanently. However when looking at the Russian newspaper *Le Caucase*, the positive news coming from Kars frontline was the relief of the Tsar. It was claimed that the Russian army was going to complete the occupation of Ardahan and capture Erzurum too⁵⁶. But maybe, it was more reasonable to

⁵¹ The Manchester Guardian, "The Repulse of Russians at Kars", 9 November 1855, p. 1.

⁵² Hartford Daily Courant, "The Crimean War", 17 November 1855, p. 2.

⁵³ La Presse, "Retour de la Garde et de Quatre Régiments de Ligne de L'armée de Crimée", 29 December 1855, p. 1.

⁵⁴ The Manchester Guardian, 15 December 1855, p. 4.

⁵⁵ The Observer, 14 January 1856, p. 2.

⁵⁶ The Observer, "The British Army in the Crimea: Destruction of Fort Alexander", 2 March 1856, p. 3.

read the story of the fall of Kars from American newspapers. *New-York Daily Tribune*, unlike its European examples, could express the mistakes of western coalition army more bravely. According to an American journalist's analyses based on the English documents, the Ottomans lost Kars, a state in the position of the key of Erzurum, because of shoddy defensive strategies⁵⁷. However, the Kars front was not the only place where the tactical mistakes of the war seen. As a wounded English colonel told in grief, in Sebastopol, thousands of English soldiers who were put forward in order to confuse Russian artillerists in favour of French soldiers lost their life⁵⁸.

Apart from the war, which continued which was cooling off by the summer of 1855, the post war diplomacy became another war area. The signing of the peace treaty took until March. Even the rumours about the signing of the peace treaty were enough to decorate the city with the lanterns called as "lampion"⁵⁹. Not only did European cities get excited with the news of peace. At the end of March, marine trade stirred up⁶⁰. The treaty putting an end to the war was composed of 34 clauses. Even if issues like war indemnity and evacuation and restoration of the places occupied were solved, some controversies like drawing boundaries for Danube principalities were lacking solutions owing to the impatience of French emperor Napoléon, according to the reports⁶¹. The Treaty of Paris re-established the status quo of pre-war period. For all the states of the coalition the Russian danger was delayed. Economic interest of Great Britain and France and the integrity of Sultan's lands were under guarantee of a multilateral treaty for some decades⁶². And after the treaty, Crimean War started to take

⁵⁷ New - York Daily Tribune, "The Fall of Kars", 8 April 1856, p. 4.

⁵⁸ Lady Hornby, Kırım Savaşında *Istanbul*, Istanbul 2007, p. 49.

⁵⁹ The Manchester Guardian, 2 April 1856, p. 2.

⁶⁰ The New York Times, "Three Days Later From Europe", 5 April 1856, p. 1. By signing of the Peace treaty in September of 1856 all the Black Sea trade became normal. One of the priorities of Tzar Alexander was exhilarating the Black Sea trade. To realise this purpose the "Russian Company of Navigation and Trade" which engaged in commercial activities at all ports of Black sea was founded through his personal support. The Times, "The Russian Mercantile Navy", 24 September 1856, p. 5.

⁶¹ New York Daily Tribune, "Unfinished Business of the Peace Congress", 12 May 1856, p. 6.

⁶² Osmanlı Belgelerinde Kırım Savaşı, Ankara 2006, p. 66.

place in newspapers with stories of heroic deeds turned to a strong nostalgia, with song and drink and hearty veteran spirit intact⁶³.

Conclusion

This fierce war concluded in favour of the Allies including of course the high points of the fall of Sebastopol and the death of Tsar Nicola. Finally, Alexander II ascended to the throne. In early 1856, the Western newspapers discussed the balance sheet of the war and then debated the conditions of new peace period. While the Crimean War approximated the Ottoman State to Europe, the World media for the first time followed such a great event with all its details day to day. A war became in the focus of mass media for the first time. The war, which fills up the newspaper columns with all its horror, created different reflections in American and European presses. While sensational news and political rumours were found in American newspapers, English and French newspapers presented the first examples of the psychological warfare embodied in the newspapers' columns.

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