

GENERAL BOSQUET.

GENERAL BOSQUET, who obtained distinction as a Cadet, was early spoken of throughout the army as an officer of great promise. The young French officer is usually of a light, reckless character—his familiarity with the men not being calculated, however it may render him a favourite, to give him influence.

Bosquet impressed himself on all around him by the solidity and repose of his manner, his cool judgment, and his firm will. When the Revolution of 1848 broke out he was among the first in the upper grades of the army to pronounce distinctly for the Republic. To that faith he has held with a consistency which, it must be admitted, was somewhat hazardous. When Louis Napoleon put the "Yes or No" to France, General Bosquet, with all his di-



GENERAL BOSQUET.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY ROGER FENTON.

vision, voted "No." This was heroic; it made him a great character in the army; it constituted him the forlorn hope of the Republicans. For the moment, however, it diminished the General's chances in his profession. He was placed *en disponibilité*—relegated to retirement as deep as that of Cavaignac. When the expedition to the East was decided on it was not thought that that retirement would cease. But General Canrobert represented to the Emperor that his friend General Bosquet was an admirable soldier, if a bad politician; and that, as a politician, his opposition to the new dynasty had ended with his one vote. The Emperor listened to the appeal, and nobly gave Bosquet a division. The army was delighted.

From the beginning of the war he has distinguished himself. It was he who, when the French landed at Gallipoli, astonished the English by the prompt genius which he displayed for organisation; rousing up and rooting

out the tedious and bewildered Turks: improvising a commissariat by spreading his Zouaves over the country; making, naming, sewerage streets; establishing post-office, cafés, restaurants, &c., &c. At Alma and at Inkerman, as in the last successful assault on Sebastopol, it was General Bosquet's good fortune to be the man to do the important thing of the day. At the Alma he commanded on the extreme right of the French; and it will be remembered that it was his outflanking the Russians which first turned the tide of battle, made a torrent by the dash of the English up the heights on the left. At Inkerman it was General Bosquet with his 6000 French who rushed to the relief of the British troops, and with them, drove back and across the Tchernaya, on the north side, the masses of Russians. To his intrepid and enduring daring in the last assault on the triply-fortified Malakoff did we owe that "crowning mercy," the capture of Sebastopol.