



# The Volunteer Review

## AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada

VOL. IX.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1875.

No. 16.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The terrace on the Parliament grounds is being laid down with sods. Mr. Robertson who is superintending the work, is paving it down well, and the surface is as level as a bowling green. In a month or so the place will look refreshingly green.

The prospects of a large influx of emigrants to the Ottawa valley this season are unusually good, thanks to the energetic action of the Ottawa Valley Emigration Society.

Mr. Metcalfe is making rapid progress with the contract of constructing 7,000 suits of military clothing. Of the 5,000 scarlet coats for the infantry, 4,000 have already been completed, and of 1,500 artillery jackets, but 500 remain unfinished. Mr. Metcalfe states that he will be able to complete his contract by the stipulated time, viz. the 1st of May.

The status of the Stipendiary Magistrates of the North West Territories, will be the same as that of County Court Judges in Ontario.

We understand that the Government have acceded to the petition of the Montreal Sugar Refiners for protection in consequence of the new rate of duties in the United States and the operations of the drawback the effect of which is to give a bonus to American refineries. The Dominion Government have decided that the only way to meet it and encourage the importation of raw sugars into Canada from the West Indies, is by a remission of twenty five cents on every 100 pounds of sugar. This will be about one quarter of a cent per pound.

The London correspondent of the *Scotsman* has reason to believe that there is some truth in the statement that a correspondence has taken place between the Canadian and British Governments on the subject of colonial representation in the Imperial Parliament.

The *Fort Garry Free Press* of the 3rd April notices the fact that wheat was sown a few days previous by Mr. Thomas West, of Palestine, in the western part of Manitoba.

Mr. W. L. Light, formerly next in charge to Mr. Fleming on the Intercolonial Railway, and now inspecting Engineer on the Quebec railways on behalf of the Government of that Province, starts in the course of a few days to organize the survey of the railway across the island of Newfoundland which the Government of that colony propose to build. Mr. Light has been granted three months' leave of absence by the Quebec Government in order that he may accomplish the important work referred to.

Mr. William Thomson, of Saint John, New Brunswick, has been appointed by the Government of Sweden and Norway to be Vice Consul at the port of Saint John, N. B., for both these countries. Mr. Thomson was highly recommended by the Government of Canada for the appointment which has been conferred upon him.

In the House of Commons on the 15th there was a long and excited debate on the petition praying for the dismissal from the bench of the judges who sat on the Tichborne trials, on the ground of partiality and corruption, and for the impeachment of the Speaker of the House of Commons for similar reasons. On motion of Mr. Disraeli the petition was rejected.

The budget includes the following plan for the reduction of the public debt:—The charge on account of the debt for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1876, is estimated at £27,215,000. This charge is to be gradually increased until it amounts to £28,000,000, in 1877, at which figure it shall permanently remain. The yearly overplus which is not required for the payment of the interests shall be applied to the redemption of the debt; thus in thirty years, £213,000,000 of the debt can be cancelled.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* is informed that sudden orders have been received at Gibraltar, by telegraph, for the immediate break up of the Government Convict Establishment there. The convicts are to return to England. This will necessitate many changes in the garrison duties. The *Western Morning News* correspondent states that on the 23rd inst, a murderous attack was made on the warders by the convicts. The warders fired on the convicts with their revolvers, but the only man seriously hurt was McCabe, a soldier of the 23rd Fusiliers, and he was accidentally shot dead while doing his duty as sentry during the melee. The convicts were overpowered and secured.

A young lady living in Newark, U. S. claims to have in her possession the first pair of shoes ever worn by Lord Byron. They were given to the lady's father by a daughter of Byron's nurse, who lived in Elizabeth, N. J., forty years ago.

The widow of Thomas Emery, Cincinnati, proposes to build a new structure for the Young Men's Christian Association, at an expense of \$100,000.

A Despatch from Barnegat, N. J., April 14, says a large mast, several baskets of wine, and a trunk, came ashore here this morning, and the body of a man came ashore at Squaw Beach. They are believed to be from the wreck of a steamer, which was heard firing yesterday. A crew has gone out with a life boat, to see what can be found.

The Humane Society of Boulogne have voted a gold medal to Paul Boynton.

We have news from Melbourne to March 13, and from Auckland to March 19. The drought had been succeeded by heavy floods in the coast districts. On the Hunter River great damage had been done to the crops. The settlers were flooded out and are being cared for by the Government.

Hon. William Arnold, Speaker of the New South West Wales Assembly, was drowned while endeavouring to recover floating property at West Maitland.

At Paterson and Morpeth the water stood several feet deep in the streets, causing great destruction to property. From the Clarence, Bullinger, MacLeavy, Hastings, and other rivers, similar disasters are reported but no loss of life.

Floods are also reported in Queensland, causing great loss of property, much suffering, and the loss of many lives.

Agricultural intelligence from the various portions of the colonies is favourable, except in the flooded districts. The late rains have removed the fears entertained on account of the drought.

The Postmaster-General of New South Wales and Victoria have made an agreement, subject to ratification by their respective Governments, to facilitate the transmission of foreign mails. It is proposed to make Suez and San Francisco services alternately as early as possible.

Mining news throughout the colonies is generally of a satisfactory character.

From Auckland news has been received that the new £4,000,000 loan, bearing 4½ per cent interest, has been taken by the Rothschilds at 93. This gives great satisfaction.

The French Academy has elected Edward Sabine, captain in the English navy and author, corresponding member for Geography and Navigation, in place of Antoine Chagallon, deceased.

The *North German Gazette* accepts as reassuring the disavowal of warlike intentions by the French.

The *Berlin Post* says the draft has been completed of a bill prohibiting religious orders in Prussia, except those employed in nursing the sick.

A cable telegram from Vienna, April 14th, says: "It is reported that the Turks have murdered 270 Christians in Roumania and Bulgaria during the last three months, and that the names of the victims have been communicated to the foreign representatives in Constantinople."

The Duke de Cazés, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has appointed a Commissioner of Diplomatic and Consular agents in connection with the Centennial exhibition.