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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Senate and House of Commons are being put in order for the approaching session.

Major General Smyth, accompanied by his son Captain Smyth, A. D. C., returned from New York on Thursday evening last.

The work on sections 9 and 10 of the enlargement of the Lachine Canal will commence this week.

Sheriff Powell on Thursday evening last entertained the members of the County Council and a number of other friends at his residence, Maria street.

His Excellency the Governor General and Countess Dufferin will hold a Drawing Room in the Senate Chamber on the evening of the opening of Parliament—February 10th.

Mr. J. S. Gurnett, editor of the *Ingersoll Chronicle* is dead. He was a vigorous writer and is a loss to the Canadian Press.

We have been given to understand that the Canadian Government have received from the Colonial Secretary, Earl Carnarvon, a formal notification of the disallowance of the clause in the Supreme Court Bill debarring right of appeal to the Privy Council of England.

A Berlin despatch says it is expected that Queen Victoria will visit the Imperial Court while she is in Germany.

Sir A. H. Gordon, Governor of Fiji, has reported to the Colonial Office that a vessel of which the name and nationality are unknown, has kidnapped some of the natives of an island lying near the Fiji group.

The International Postal Congress has resolved to hold its next meeting at London, England, in June of the present year.

A committee, the members of which have recently been appointed, is now sitting at the War Office, England, with the view of revising the present scale of army pensions.

The British Government has ordered Her Majesty's Steamship *Sirius* to proceed to the West Coast of Africa to take on board Lieut. Cameron, the African explorer and his escort, who have just penetrated the Continent of Africa from Zanzibar to Loando.

It is said that agents of the Russian Ambassador are urging the Bosmans to join the Herzegovinian insurrection.

Four officers of the French army have been cashiered for attending the funeral service at Amiens, on the anniversary of the death of Napoleon III.

Committees have been formed in seven Serbian towns, including Belgrade, which openly agitate for the dethronement of Prince Milan.

Additional troops have been sent to Guetoria. The Carlists are concentrating in large forces at Artesua to cover Azpeitia and Dolos, firing around Hernani continues.

A special from Vienna reports that the Austrian frontier authorities have forbidden the formation of bands in Croe to aid the insurgents. Orders have been issued to disarm and intern all insurgents who cross the frontier into Austrian territory.

The municipality of Moscow recently resolved to send a second contribution of \$16,000 in aid to the sufferers from the Herzegovinian insurrection. Czar has refused to permit money to be sent, although he sanctioned the first contribution.

The Russian telegraphic agency has received a despatch from St. Petersburg, saying: "So far, the announcement of the Montenegrin *Gazette*, that the Sultan is resolved to declare war against Montenegro is unconfirmed. The relation, however, between the Prince and the Porte are in a state of great tension. The Powers will exercise strong pressure on both sides to prevent a conflict which threatens to block the work of pacification.

The *London Globe* says that private letters from naval officers on the China station represent that though the Chinese difficulty has blown over the general belief among European residents is that the Celestials are bent on fighting sooner or later. The Admiral has sent a man of war to each treaty port to protect British interests in case of emergency.

The following is received from Slavonic sources. A force of 3,500 Turks attacked the insurgents near Duzi, on Tuesday last. After a brief engagement the insurgent left their entrenchments and set fire to Dobovrole near Trebinage. An insurgent reinforcement of 1,000 arriving on the ground at this time the Turks were cut off from Tabinge and compelled to retreat to Dina.

Peko Paulovics has issued a general order taking the undivided command of the insurgent forces, banishing Lejubobratits and all foreign auxiliaries under pain of death. This is intended to emancipate the insurrection from the influence of the young Serbian party which is antagonistic to the Montenegrins and free it from identification with the political and national combinations of the South Slavonic politicians.

The *Pall Mall Gazette's* Berlin telegram says the Insurgent leaders in Herzegovina have issued a proclamation declaring that the Austrian programme is unacceptable though supported by the Powers, and calling upon the friends of liberty to answer it with a continuance of war and by a stouter resistance.

War is imminent between Guatemala and San Salvador. Both countries are arming.

Cardinal Timeoni, Nuncio at Madrid, has made a report on the Spanish elections, in which he says the Government of King Alfonso have been compelled to accept the alliance of the defenders of the so-called religious liberty, in order to secure a political victory.

The Emperor of Austria formally approved of the appointment of Monseignor Kutel'er to the Archbishopric of Vienna on the 12th inst.

The *London Times* Paris telegram says it seems quite certain that the Senate in no case will contain a purely ministerial majority by the support of our anti-republican group, including irreconcilable Bonapartists, and Ultra Legitimists, or by a union of moderate Left with Ministerialists. Buffet must renounce the least cooperation from moderate Left. The Leon Say and Ferry incident has placed an impassable barrier between the Left Centre and him. Buffet then can only govern with four groups of the Right. He resolutely pushes the Moderate Left towards the Radical Left and himself becomes a prisoner of Bonapartists of all shades, being forced at the same time to reckon on the support of the Legitimists. Such a combination would be a signal for most disastrous complications. If France is really to be saved; another policy, liberal, moderate, and firm against all violence and agitation must be given her. This policy is only possible with the Left Centre. Happily the good sense and honest ideas of President MacMahon will suffice to reassure France, and we may be certain that next session will open under a Cabinet, realizing the promise of Lille and summoning around it the moderate men of all parties.

M. Buffet, Minister of the Interior and Chief of the French Cabinet, together with M. Dufaure, have been defeated in the elections just held. The Orleanists seem to have made great headway in the recent electoral struggle.

The *Wiener Presse* reports that during an insurgent attack on a Turkish camp near Neum, three Turkish men of war anchored off Klek, and unexpectedly opened a violent cannonade on the Herzegovinians. As the vessels were in Austrian waters at the time of their action, it caused considerable surprise. The result of the attack is not known.

A committee of the Reichstag has passed a resolution in favour of the appointment of a special committee to consider the question of reducing the army, and ultimately propose an International Congress to discuss the matter.