



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Autumn Manœuvres have been concluded in England. And the first trial of voting by ballot was attended with some queer results. Less than two-thirds of the electors exercised the franchise, and the proceedings were considerably delayed by the *red tapeism* of the proceeding in the case of illiterate voters who are put through a series of tedious processes.

The first election under the new law came off in the Borough of Pontefract, in Yorkshire: memorable in history as the castle at which Richard the Second was assassinated. Mr. Childers, the Government candidate, beating Lord Pollington, a representative of young England of no decided principles, but playing the role of Conservatism for the occasion by *eighty* votes. About 1100 out of over 1900 votes were polled, and if the Conservatives were organized or cared to carry in their man, they might have done so. He had, however, previously offered his services, whatever those were worth, to Mr. Gladstone, and no object could be attained by aiding a loose fish.

There appears to have been a total lack of interest in the proceedings which does not argue well for the welfare of the county, when the people will not take any part in selecting those who are to govern and legislate for the country, its affairs are very generally left to the mercy of doctrinaires; and England appears to be just now in that unenviable condition. Whether the experiment is a failure or otherwise, it is not yet possible to say; but it seems to have put a stop to rioting and disorder, leaving the course clear presumably for perjury and fraud. There can be little doubt that the tricks of New York State elections will find easy access to English electioneering practice, and stuffed ballot boxes be as common in Old as New York.

As might have been expected the International Congress has ended by forming itself into a political organization, so that the peace of the world is likely to be disturbed by the plottings of the offscourings of the population of Paris. It is said that the fear of Jesuits is a source of constant anxiety to more than one European Monarchy, but here

is an evil of a graver and more dangerous character than all the Jesuits since the days of Francis Loyalla, one more difficult to deal with and impossible to proscribe.

The fire at Canterbury Cathedral only injured the roof, luckily the main building escaped, and this venerable pile is spared from the ruin with which it was threatened. Culpable carelessness alone could have jeopardized it; and such monuments of art are safer from the ravages of time than from the stupidity of those engaged in their repair.

The English Volunteers proceeding to Belgium were denied the favor of having the Coldstream Guards' band, the Whig Radicals could send them *three thousand* miles away to a Yankee speculation at Boston, but would not so far encourage the military spirit of England as to countenance their appearance at the *Belgic Tir Nationale*.

The Geneva arbitrators appear to have kept their own council, the award being variously stated at from *three to thirty* million pounds sterling against Great Britain, of course it is all guess work, but we should be delighted if she had to pay the larger sum through the folly of her rulers.

President Tuilers proposes to move for the appointment of a Vice President when the French Assembly next meets. He is rapidly re-organizing the French Army, and supplying it with the best possible armament.

At Berlin there has been a meeting of the Emperors of Austria, Russia, and Germany, what the result of it all may be is a question time will answer, but those kindly re-unions invariably lead to bloodshed, and probably a re-construction of the map of Europe.

Russia has been fearfully scourged by cholera.

Land slides have occurred in Spain and the state of society there is not reassuring.

A great land slide has occurred at the entrance to the Mont Cevis tunnel, traffic on the railway has been interfered with for several days.

The breach between Cardinal Antonelli and the Pope has not yet been closed, the Cardinal, who is a good Statesman, disapproves of Pio Nono's opposition to the Secular Government

Pere Hyacinthe, the non-conforming priest

and the opponent of infallibility, demonstrated the truth of the principles on which his opposition was founded, by marrying a Yankee adventuress—a widow—and will probably figure in the Divorce Courts before many months, as the woman has a weakness that way.

The United States Mercantile Marine exhibits symptoms of revival, a new iron steamship has been launched at Philadelphia, and it is quite possible the rise in the price of iron and coal in Great Britain will have the tendency to give the manufacturing interests of the States a very decided impetus and we may hope again to see the Stars and Stripes floating over the ocean and to be found in every port.

The State of New York has acquired a Rifle range at Creedmore, in New Jersey, and we may hope to see an United States Wimbledon within a year or two. A very admirable Report of the Committee has appeared in the United States *Army and Navy Journal*.

Cuban affairs appear to be progressing in the usual style; the insurrection Brigandage, or whatever it is, keeps up an outside appearance, not creditable to any of the parties engaged; but it does not seem to possess any vital force, being more of a revolt against all authority rather than any definite purpose to separate the country from Spain.

Mexico is again in a state of revolution; the genius of the people seems to be decidedly against all steady constitutional rule, and they must be governed by the strong hand.

An attempted revolution in Peru has been put down by the people with great barbarity.

The elections have been concluded within the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. The Hon. the Minister of Finance has been returned by acclamation for Victoria, British Columbia; and no elections have yet taken place in Manitoba.

The annual Rifle Matches in Nova Scotia and Quebec have been concluded, and it is a good sign that a decided preference has been shewn for the military Rifle in all those trials of skill—fancy bores being evidently at a discount.

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce have affiliated with the Dominion Board of Trade.

The harvest prospects appear to be very good all over the Dominion, and the weather gives premonitory symptoms of the close of the season.

The working men of Montreal are about to present the Right Hon. Sir J. A. Macdonald, K.C.B. with a testimonial.

The *Great Eastern* is coming to Halifax with a new submarine cable.

A force of two hundred men, to replace those whose time has expired, will proceed to Fort Garry in a few days.