



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. VIII.

OTTAWA, (CANADA,) TUESDAY, MAY 19, 1874.

No. 20.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On the 13th, the corner stone of the new Normal School, Ottawa, was laid. The contractor will push on the work with all possible despatch.

The Kingston News says:—"We understand that there is a probability of a brigade camp being held here during the month of June."

The Dawson Road Transportation Company expect to have everying in working order by the 1st of June.

The steamer *Trojan*, of the Anchor Line, is over due, being now over 39 days out. No tidings of any kind have been received. It is feared she has shared the fate of so many of the iron vessels of late, and gone to the bottom of the sea with all on board.

The Belleville *Intelligencer* says:—"One of the Manitoba Mounted Police has been in town for several days. The uniform is a neat one, much resembling that of the heavy cavalry in the British service, namely scarlet jacket, fatigue cap with white band, dark trousers and cavalry boots. If the young man in town is an average specimen of the force, they must be an extra fine lot of men."

There seems some prospect that the negotiations now going on in Washington with a view to a new treaty of commercial reciprocity between the United States and the Dominion of Canada, may terminate successfully. The United States Secretary of State conducts the negotiations on behalf of his Government, and Sir E. Thornton and the Hon. Geo. Brown, Senator of the Canadian Dominion, act as joint plenipotentiaries on the part of Great Britain. It is understood that a rough outline of the new treaty is now the subject of investigation and discussion.

"A plucky old veteran," says the *Perth Expositor*, "named Thomas Kirkham of Bathurst, an old Peninsular hero, 82 years of age, left home last Thursday morning and walked into Perth, nine miles, in time to catch the morning train for Ottawa. He there did a good deal of running round, in connection with his application for an increase of pension, under the new order, but got through in time to take the evening train for Perth, which he reached about 9 p.m.; after a few minutes' rest in Perth, he walked home again. The next morning, he took his accustomed walk of nine miles into town, despatched his business and walked home again. This is not so bad for a lad of 82. It is to be hoped he will be successful in his application for an increased pension, and may long live to enjoy it."

Nearly one hundred houses in Masaya, Nicaragua, were burned recently.

It is stated that the British Minister to Chili has demanded the release of Captain Herde, of the wrecked steamer *Tacna*, and an indemnity of £5,000. If the demand is not acceded to, he asks for his passports.

The British fleet, it is said, has been ordered to Valparaiso.

It is stated that British Consul McGee, was recently sentenced by the Commandant at San Jose, Guatemala, to four hundred lashes, of which two hundred were inflicted, nearly killing McGee. The Commandant fled. A Panama letter gives details of the affair:—"It appears that Gonzales arrested Mr. Moncreif, agent of the Steamship Company at San Jose, but released him, retaining McGee, who protested against the horror in the name of the British flag. The American Consular Agent, James, entered a protest just as McGee was about to be flogged, when Gonzales threatened to serve James the same. Four soldiers performed the whipping, two hundred lashes being inflicted, after which McGee was kept over night to receive the remaining two hundred next day and then to be shot. Mr. Moncreif sent a messenger to the nearest telegraph station, Gonzales having guarded the telegraph office at San Jose, and summoned General Solares with one hundred men from the capital, who arrived next morning as McGee was about to be again whipped. Gonzales fled to the steamer, but as he was getting on board, some one shot him dead in the gangway."

The *Chicago Post and Mail* say that Henry S. Walker, the boy pianist, now with Mrs. Scott-Siddons, recently received a draft for \$1,500 in gold from a Chicago gentleman, who proposes to give the youthful prodigy \$750 in gold per year until he is 21 years of age.

The disgraceful state of affairs, peculiar to Republican institutions, which has existed in the State of Kansas for some time, between two men named Brooks and Baxter, both claiming to be the Governor of the State, has culminated in a series of fights between the followers of these unprincipled demagogues in which a number of lives have been lost on both sides. The President of the United States has ordered both to lay down their arms, and allow a full session of the Legislature of the State to assemble and decide who shall be the Governor of State. Subsequently President Grant, who all along is said to have favored the pretensions of Baxter, has issued a Proclamation recognizing Baxter as Governor of Arkansas, and commands all disorderly persons to disband and go to their homes within ten days.

General Ellis has retired from the position of Chief of Staff to Don Carlos, and has been succeeded by General Derreguay.

The Reformed Episcopal Church Synod of the United States have adopted the Versicles attached to the Nicene Creed, and the Rubric is to be omitted when the Litany is read.

The Duke de Broglie, French Minister of the Interior, has introduced a bill into the French Assembly to establish an Upper Chamber.

The new Spanish Government are manifesting Alphonist tendencies

It is now proposed, according to a London journal, to raise a statue to Lord Byron in Venice. A committee of Italians has been formed to raise a fund.

Private advices from St. Petersburg report a complete reconciliation to have taken place between the Czar and the Grand Duke Alexis, who have been long estranged on account of the latter's marriage beneath his rank.

The Grand Duke Nicholas, of Russia, brother of the Czar, has been arrested on a criminal charge.

A banquet was given Sir Garnet Wolseley, at Portsmouth, on Tuesday evening, by the officers of the Ashantee expedition.

The late severe frosts have done considerable damage to the vines throughout France. It is estimated that the grape crop for the present year will not be above half the average.

The Emperor of Germany has conferred the Order of Louise of the first class upon the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Edinburgh.

Mr. Lionel Levy, proprietor of the Globe Theatre, in London, has presented the Duke of Edinburgh, as a wedding gift, a dessert service of solid gold. Its value is between 3,000 and 4,000 guineas.

Eight of the twelve members of the present English Cabinet are authors.

The Czar and Grand Duke Alexis arrived at Dover at 7 o'clock p.m., on the 13th. Immense crowds witnessed the debarkation of the party, and greeted them with hearty enthusiasm. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and Prince Arthur were waiting to receive the Imperial visitors, and conducted them at once to Windsor Castle, where they arrived at ten o'clock. On the 15th the Czar and party reached Buckingham Palace at noon from Windsor Castle. Immense crowds lined the route of procession from Paddington station to the Palace. The Czar, the Prince of Wales, Grand Duke Alexis, and Duke of Edinburgh, occupied one carriage, and Prince Arthur, Princess of Wales, and the Duchess of Edinburgh another. The latter was cheered vehemently.

It is expected the Dominion House of Commons will be prorogued on Saturday.