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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Quebec has again been visited by another great fire, which destroyed property to the amount of one million dollars. The fire broke out at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, May 30th, in a haggard at the rear of the residence of Mr. Boivin, a carter, on Scott street. It gained such rapid headway that in a few minutes it was master of the situation, and spread out in every direction with alarming rapidity, until the whole of Montcalm Ward was in a mass of fire. The numbers of houses destroyed is roughly estimated at seven to eight hundred; the number of families rendered homeless by the sudden calamity will be about treble that number, as the burned district was occupied mostly by a labouring population, and a great portion of the houses were tenement buildings; it contained, however, some very handsome and substantial private houses and shops. The fields in the vicinity of the fire were filled with unfortunate families who have so suddenly been deprived of house and home together with the remnants of what portions of their furniture they could hastily save and remove. B. Battery worked manfully and did good service in helping to check the flames. The Jesuit Barracks were thrown open to the homeless ones, as well as the drill shed and food was supplied them by the Mayor. The scenes at these places were heartrending.

Canon Baldwin of Toronto died on the 1st inst., after a long illness, aged 50 years.

The two seats for the North and South Ridings of the County of Ontario in the House of Commons, are rendered vacant by a singular fatality, by the death of both members, within the shortest space of five days.

The Military College will have eighteen cadets at the opening, out of the twenty two authorized, so that its instructions will be fairly taken advantage of, as it is desirable they should be in view of the expense which it will be to the country. The cadets were to report themselves between ten and twelve o'clock on the afternoon of Thursday, and so begin labors in an institution which will probably yet be of great service to Canada.

From Cobourg we learn that the yacht *Countess of Dufferin* left that port at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 23rd ult. for the Genesee River, and from thence to Toronto, under the command of Major Gifford, V.C. R. C. Y. C., Captain Cuthbert, sailing master. Several gentlemen have gone with her for her cruise around the lake, previous

to her sailing for New York, amongst whom were J. K. Cameron, Esq., Angus Crawford, Esq., Major Graveley, Karl Kolmer, Esq., and Frau Gifford, Esq. On her trial trip the sailing of the "Countess" delighted everyone. Captain Cuthbert her builder, as she exceeds his most sanguine expectations. The manner in which he handled her was wonderful she answering to the least movement of the helm. Great hopes are entertained of her bringing Her Majesty's cup back once more under the glorious flag of Old England.

The *Quebec Mercury* of the 2nd inst. says:—"We learn that the Provincial Government has negotiated its loan of \$4,000,000 for the construction of the Quebec, Montreal and Western Railway through the Bank of Montreal, at par, five per cent interest."

The *Toronto Globe* special from London, England, of the 2nd inst. says: On Friday evening Sir Chas. Adderly, in the Imperial House of Commons, said it was extraordinary that any one pretending to know should suppose that the Dominion Act of 1867 excluded Canada from the effect of the operation of the Imperial acts or made Canadian bottoms other than British ships. It was a total mistake to suppose that the Confederation Act altered the relation of Canadian subjects to the Imperial Parliament. A Canadian ship was a British ship registered in Canada, and there was no distinction between the two. The bill was read a third time."

The following regiments were drawn at the recent ballot for Military District No. 3 viz.—The 3rd and 4th Regiments of Cavalry; Kingston and Durham Field Batteries and Artillery; Trenton, Cobourg and Port Hope Garrison Batteries of Artillery and the following battalions of Infantry: 14th P.W.O. Rifles; 40th Battalion, three companies; 45th, 46th, 48th, 49th and 57th Battalions. Each of these corps is to do its annual training at its respective headquarters, there being no camps of instruction this year.

Senator Cameron was sworn in as Secretary of War for the United States, on Thursday 1st June.

Seven thousand soldiers have been despatched from Spain to Cuba.

Prince Napoleon has had his election to the French Assembly confirmed.

Preliminary work on the channel tunnel, to connect England and France have been commenced. Shafts have been sunk to the depth of 40 metres; when those reach the depth of 100 metres below the sea, a gallery one kilometre long will be made in the chalk. If this is successful, and nothing indicate the impracticability of the project, the tunnel will be definitely commenced.

The Mineral colt, named Kisber, won the Derby this year, second horse, Forerunner; third, Julius Cæsar. Fifteen horses ran in the race.

The Egyptian army lost 15,000 men in the late Abyssinian war.

The Revolution in Turkey is the leading subject in the cable despatches this week, and various accounts of the causes which brought it about are given. An account of a popular demonstration, headed by Loftus, in which the cry of Down with Abdul Aziz was raised, is part of the news, but the Turkish Ministers seem to have been really those who deposed the late Sultan, Midhat Pasha, the head of the party which opposes Russian influence, seems to have had most to do with it, and the demand by the Sultans that he should be taken into the Ministry was probably with a view to some such action as this. Saïk Ul Islam was the spokesman to the Sultan, and informed him that he was deposed, after he refused to contribute money from his privy purse to the exhausted War Treasury. It is not probable, however, that the refusal of the money was the real cause of the deposition. It is more likely that it was owing to the belief that Russian influence was too great and it is stated that a timely recall of Gen. Ignatieff, the Russian Ambassador, who has for some time been the most influential diplomatic representative at Constantinople, would have averted what has happened to the occupant of the throne. Murad Effendi, the new Sultan, as yet, has not been generally recognized by the European Powers. Some little time will, it is thought, be given to the new sovereign to see if he will initiate reforms of his own accord before negotiations in reference to the insurrection are renewed, and the deposition of Abdul Aziz is claimed in some quarters as a complete justification of the course of great Britain in regard to the Eastern question.

It is stated that the new Turkish Government have notified England of their determination to maintain the integrity of the Empire and the sovereign power of the Crown and that England approved of their determination.

A special despatch to the *Pall Mall Gazette* from Berlin says it is stated here that Servin refuses to recognize the new Sultan of Turkey, on the ground of his irregular accession to the throne, and declines to pay the tribute of two instalments which are in arrears.

A special despatch to the *Telegraph* from Paris says the insurgents have attacked and burned Bihes, in Bosnia, killing 350 Turks. At the second encounter in the same neighbourhood—the Turks were defeated, leaving 200 dead on the field.