



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, MAY 18, 1875. No. 20.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Dufferin left Ottawa, by the 2:10 on Thursday afternoon, *en route* for England. A guard of honor of 100 men from the Foot Guards was present, and a large number of the Staff Officers and Citizens. Among others, we noticed the Premier, Sir John MacDonalld, Hon. Dr. Tupper, the Hon. Messrs. Vail Laird, Burpee and Scott. After their Excellencies had taken farewell of their many friends, the train moved off, the band of the Guards playing the National Anthem, and the crowd cheering lustily. Subsequently, the band struck up "Auld Lang Syne," when the ladies brought their handkerchiefs into requisition, and the Guards tossed around their busbys on the tops of their rifles. His Excellency all this time stood on the platform at the rear of the palace car (especially furnished by the obliging managing director of the road, Mr. H. Reynolds) and waved his hat to the multitude.

The Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery, together with the Ontario Field Battery, go into camp at Brockville on the 22nd prox.

An old cavalry man of Napoleon's died at Port Burwell on the 30th of April. He was a Bohemian by birth, and is said to have been 102 years old last Christmas. He has resided at the Port for the past seventeen years.

The steamer *St. Lawrence*, from Portsmouth 24th April, arrived at Halifax on Saturday morning, bringing about 400 soldiers, being a detachment from the Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, 60th Rifles and 78th Regiment.

The assessed value of real and personal property in Ottawa for the year 1875 is \$11,800,000, being an increase of \$2,000,000 over last year.

A couple of United States Post office officials visited Ottawa last week to enquire into the Money Order system of this country, who expressed themselves well pleased with it and have prevailed on the Postmaster General to allow Mr. P. Lesureur, the chief of the money order branch, to proceed to Washington to give the postal authorities there the benefits of his experience and to aid in devising a plan by which the money order system of both countries can be made to harmonize together.

The new mode of working ships' guns recently adopted in England is a little expensive. It is said that \$40,000 has been paid to the firm of Sir W. Armstrong for the hydraulic machinery supplied to the *Thunderer's* guns.

The City Council on the 11th inst. passed a By-law to grant \$100,000 to the Canada Central Railway Company.

Sir Hugh Allan is reported to have received a favorable offer for the Detroit and Milwaukee bonds he was endeavoring to negotiate in London.

On Thursday evening the Governor General's Foot Guards were paraded for drill in the Parliament square, accompanied by their excellent band, preparatory to the Grand Muster on Her Majesty's birthday. The firing with blank cartridge was exceedingly well done, particularly the *feu de joie*. The regiment, after about two hours drill, marched off the square headed by the band, which played a lively air. The men wore their summer uniform and presented a very martial appearance. A large number of spectators assembled in the square to witness their manœuvres.

His Honor John Crawford, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, died at a quarter to eleven on Thursday night, at the Government House, Toronto, after an illness of several weeks. He will likely be succeeded in the office of Lieutenant Governor by the Hon. George Brown.

Three American barges freighted with lumber, were wrecked in the Grenville rapids on Friday morning last. They were smashed to atoms on the rocks and the lumber scattered in every direction. No lives lost.

The American Bible Society held its annual meeting this evening and elected managers. The annual report gives receipts \$577,569; payments were \$533,714; copies issued 926,900; total for fifty nine years, 31,898,332.

Great Britain has applied for double the room allotted her in the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition buildings.

The race for 5,000 sovereigns between *Gallop* and *Stray Shot* at New Market, one mile and seventeen yards, was won by *Gallop*.

Garibaldi suffers so greatly from rheumatism as to be obliged to use crutches, but his chest is as strong, his voice as clear, and his eye as keen as ever.

The *Post* maintains that the late war rumors were not groundless. Germany alarmed by the rapidity of the French military reorganization, had arranged everything and was on the point of marching against France, but the danger is averted for the moment.

Extensive floods are reported in the Province of Victoria.

The Czar of all the Russia has paid a visit to the Emperor of Germany, to consult with him on the present political State of Europe. In regard to this visit the *London Times* in a leading editorial says: "We believe the Czar is resolved to hold most decided language in favor of the maintenance of peace, and the use of every effort to put a stop to the present alarm. A few days will probably bring fourth official disclaimers of recent reports. It is possible that it will be said that there is nothing to justify French apprehensions, but there should be no mistake on this point. As long as present conditions remain there must be uneasiness, even danger. An unforeseen incident, an outbreak of jealousy, may precipitate a rupture. The Czar is unable to guarantee that France will not attack Germany within a few years. Gigantic armaments are a mutual menace while they exist. It is beyond the power of even Imperial peace makers to allay apprehensions."

At a meeting recently held in Sydney, New South Wales, a resolution was adopted urging on the Home Government the expediency of annexing the Island of New Guinea.

An official telegram has been received at the Russian legation from Berlin stating that the Emperor leaves Berlin entirely convinced of the conciliating dispositions which exist there, and which assure the maintenance of peace.

Prince Bismark energetically disavows all responsibility for the reports of the Alarmists, and has assured Prince Gortschakoff that Germany has in no way menaced Belgium's independence.

The *Times* say there could hardly be a more critical situation than that which existed in Berlin upon the arrival of the Emperor of Russia. The German Government may be able to declare that an hostile movement was never officially entertained, but a few days since there was serious danger that warlike counsels would prevail. We may suppose Prince Gortschakoff expressed determination to treat as an enemy the first state disturbing the peace. In spite of England's attitude of reserve, we believe the Government thought it a national duty in the recent crisis to express its opinion very decisively in regard to the maintenance of peace. A communication was amicably received and a most satisfactory reply returned. France has expressed acknowledgment of England's friendly attitude.

The *Daily News* reports that the Czar has mentioned his desire to confer with M. Thiers unofficially in relation to European affairs. The *Daily Telegraph* is informed that Russia has given England friendly and satisfactory assurances in regard to Central Asia.