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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Toronto city Council has voted \$5,000 for the erection of a drill shed on the condition that the Government will contribute a similar sum.

The following gentlemen have been appointed the Central Board of Examiners of the papers of the candidates for admission to the military College at Kingston:—Messrs. J. Thorburn, M. A., J. A. McCabe, of the Ottawa Normal school, and the Rev. T. D. Phillips, M. A. Mr. Thorburn is to be President of the Board.

The Eight Battalion volunteer Corps, under command of Col. Alleyn, is now undergoing its annual 16 days' drill. It musters, in full force, 110 men have been supplied with new uniforms.

A London special despatch says: At the annual dinner of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, Gen. Schenck, the American Minister, in response to the toast, said 'that American trade with England was more than a third of her whole trade with the world, and, reckoning the trade with England and other British dependencies, her British trade amounted to half the whole trade of the United States. It was no wonder, therefore, on that account alone, if no other, that the United States felt more closely linked to England than any other nation.'

Mr. Disraeli was introduced a bill into the House of Commons, enabling the Queen to take the title of Empress of India.

Negotiations are progressing favorably between Count Andrássy and the Porte for assuring a safe conduct to Bosnians and Herzegovinians who have taken refuge on Austrian territory. It is said that the prospect is that a speedy and satisfactory conclusion will be arrived at.

The *Wiener Presse* (Vienna) reports that an English vessel has landed at Gravosa 14,000 breech-loading rifles and two field pieces for the Herzegovinians.

The morning *Standard* says that telegraphic instructions have been sent to Mr. Wade, the British Minister to China, to support Germany's claim against China for plundering the German schooner *Anna*, last September. A portion of the detached squadron has been ordered to China for the purpose of strengthening Mr. Wade's position, but there is no reason to believe than any cause for hostile demonstration will arise.

Petitions have been presented to the Prussian Parliament asking the Government to secure to the working classes their Sunday for rest.

General Budritzki, who commanded the Guards at the battle of Lebourget, is dead.

The Insurgents surprised the Turks on Tuesday, near Uauskoje, killing 13 and wounding 50 after ten hours fighting.

The *Times'* Rome special says the Pope has made a remarkable exception to the rule, never before broken during his pontificate, by granting a dispensation for the celebration of the marriage here, on the 9th of February, between the daughter of the sculptor Story, a Protestant, and a Catholic Commendatore Peruzzi, a brother of the Syndic of Florence. Some of the extreme Ultramontanes are highly displeased at the Pope's concession.

The Spanish Cortes was opened by the King in person on the 15th. The King, addressing the senators and deputies from the throne, said: "The ill advised Prince, who is waging civil war, has been reduced to powerlessness and can obtain no advantages. I shall speedily proceed north to contribute to the restoration of peace. My relations with foreign powers are friendly negotiations are being carried on with the United States in a friendly spirit, and they afford reason to hope for a prompt and satisfactory settlement."

It would appear that women have always had a legal right to obtain a diploma from the Royal College of Surgeons authorizing them to practice in midwifery. The College has been advised that a clause in its charter was expressly drawn to admit women, the word "persons" being employed instead of "men," and the Council has decided on submission.

The *London World* describes a new device for burying the dead, as follows:—"You are placed in a glass box, to the top of which is a metal rod. As soon as the earth is filled in a battery is connected with the rod, and an electric shock shatters the coffin into a thousand pieces, thus allowing the earth to press upon the dear departed, and allowing him to return to dust even quicker than in one of Mr. Seymour Haden's wicker baskets."

An article in the *Cologne Gazette* draws attention to the fact that the Russian press is continually instigating the insurgents, in Servia and Montenegro, against the Porte. The *Gazette* declares that the Russian Government is responsible for the alarming demeanor of the press, consequently it can not be surprising that the people believe in the existence of a secret agreement by which Austria is to be allowed to annex Bosnia; Russia relaking the Bessarabian Territory, which was ceded in 1856.

Philadelphia is making preparations to lodge and feed "all the world and his wife," who are expected at the Centennial this year. One restaurant promises to provide 50,000 meals a day, and others have

pledged themselves for 150,000 more. It is said one company has invested \$200,000 in poultry, to be packed frozen in a White Mountain storehouse, and to be forwarded in refrigerators next summer. Another firm has 150,000 home in store for Centennial visitors. And so on.

The steamship *Franconia* ran into the steamer *Strath Clyde*, of Glasgow, off Dover on Thursday afternoon. The boiler of the *Strath Clyde* burst, and she sank immediately. Fifty two of her passengers were drowned, five have been landed at Dover, and four others are reported to have been saved.

Last September, a Scotch sailor named Anderson performed one of the most perilous feats on record. He climbed the summit of the South Half Dome, in the Yosemite Valley, a distance of 1,300 feet, by means of spikes and ropes. After him a few other tourists reached the dizzy height.

Mr. Plimsoll has secured immortality already, whether he ever has a monument or not. A short, yellow band, painted amidships, about six inches below that which has always been regarded as the ship's water line, which is being put upon British ships by order of the Board of Admiralty is called by the sailors, "Plimsoll's mark." It will make considerable difference in the amount of cargo which it will be lawful for the ship to carry.

The idea which is being worked out in Paris of testing proposed alterations in the formation and manœuvring of infantry by practising them with a battalion made up to a war strength, would seem to be a good one, and one which might be introduced by ourselves with advantage at Aldershot, thus rendering the camp a real school of instruction even in the piping time when autumn manœuvres and summer drills have ceased. From exercises recently carried out on the Champs de Mars, with a battalion made up to a strength of 960 rank-and-file by drafting into it detachments from other regiments, and from the Marine Infantry, the following deductions have been arrived at:—That it is extremely difficult, if not absolutely impossible, for the officer commanding the battalion to manœuvre by his voice so large a body of men; that a captain on foot cannot properly control and direct a company of 120 files; that when manœuvring in the present formations the adjutant is of very little use, and that it is difficult to deploy a column of four large companies into line by the diagonal march, while it is found that the extra length of time required to deploy by rectangular movements is hardly appreciable, and the men arrive in their place in the alignment in a much more orderly manner.