

## NAPOLEON ON THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

The following is reported to be a declaration made by the ex-Emperor Napoleon to a high personage in the course of an intimate conversation:—I cannot think of a restoration at present; men's minds are still too much irritated, and the truth as to the causes of the war and the disasters resulting from it are not yet known. France is in the hands of M. Thiers, who does not possess sufficient strength for his position, and who, perhaps, does not desire to establish a definitive state of things. The country is once more entrusted to parliamentarism, which is leading it to ruin and abasement. The Assembly should have proclaimed the Count de Chambord at Bordeaux; had it done so, France would now have alliances which would facilitate the recovery of her greatness. Foreign powers will never treat seriously with a nation represented by deputies who are so disunited as those composing the present Chamber. Orleanism is not possible at the present moment. It is a hybrid system which leans upon liberalism but which rejects universal suffrage, the true basis of the other. Independently of Radicalism and the Empire, there remains but one chance of safety for France, and that is the Duke d'Aumale. He has the strength necessary to raise the country again by the re-establishment of the system of 1852. He is a man of intelligence, well informed, and capable of a great resolution. As for myself, if the Duke wishes to play the part which circumstances and his patriotism point out to him, I will support him, and engage myself to write publicly to my friends not to throw any embarrassments in his way. Will the Prince himself be willing? I believe not; for he is encompassed by friends incapable of advising him or of sustaining him in a great resolve. But remember well what I am about to say to you: If, in six months, the Duke d'Aumale is not President of the Republic, and he should not establish the *regime* of 1852, France will come in search of me, and—will find me.

## FALL GRAIN IN MANITOBA.

A correspondent of the *Manitobian* writes:—As you have always taken a deep interest in agricultural matters, I would state that several pieces of fall grain have been put down by Canadian farmers. I have made it my business to ascertain the feelings of these men with regard to the issue, and they assure me that it is an erroneous idea to suppose that this hardy cereal will not thrive in this country. As for myself, I am thoroughly convinced that of all grain the fall wheat is the best adapted to this soil. In Ontario this crop is very hazardous on account of the snow melting off, leaving the grain uncovered, to perish for want of heat. Now in this country it is quite the reverse, for the grain is covered all winter with a warm coating of snow, thereby preserving it intact from the severities of frost. The close of next harvest will, I hope, unfold to the farming community of this Province a wonderful change with regard to wheat raising and crops in general.

**EARTHQUAKE IN QUEBEC.**—A slight shock of an earthquake was felt in Quebec on the 11th inst. The shock lasted about thirty seconds. No injury was done any of the buildings within the city, the waters of the St. Lawrence seeming to be the most troubled, the ice bridge across to Point L. vi having been somewhat damaged and broken.

We are happy to learn that Lieut. Colonel Jackson, A.D.A.G., is likely to be confirmed in rank as successor to Colonel Atcherly who has gone home to the old country. Mr. Jackson has been for many years in the service in Canada, is thoroughly posted in military tactics, has had a large experience in the volunteer system of the country. He has proved himself a most energetic and efficient officer, and we do not think a better promotion could be made.—*Carleton Place Herald.*

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The health of H. R. II, the Prince of Wales continues to improve, it is expected he will shortly be able to leave Sandingham. The King of Denmark has congratulated Her Majesty on his recovery. The Duke of Edinburgh is to take the command of the new ironclad ship the *Sultan*.

Our readers will remember that the VOLUNTEER REVIEW showed that to be the case on the visit of the Grand Duke to Ottawa, and it was no doubt for accurately investigating our resources and power that such a visit was made. While Canada remains a component part of the British Empire she will effectually neutralize any attempt of the United States to interfere with British policy. Sir John Pakington in a lecture declared the failure of the Gladstone administration to uphold the honor of England and their policy had disastrously failed in Ireland.

The Telegraph construction and Maintenance Company have completed the contract with Messrs Bischoffsheim for laying the new Atlantic cable to New York direct.

In France matters are very unsettled, the Orleans Princess the Duc d'Aumale and Prince de Joinville have taken their seats as deputies in the Assembly; a commission of the latter body have agreed to report in favour of a bill providing that all offenders of the Press shall be tried before a jury. The Military have been ordered to put down any disturbances by force.

The treaty for the cession of the Dutch possessions on the Guinea Coast meets with much opposition in Holland, it has been ratified by the Upper House but it is thought it would be rejected by the Lower House of the States General.

It is stated that the Baron Von Affenberg, the Consul General of Russia at Bucharest, will be the successor of Catacazy as Russian Minister at Washington.

The President of the United States has been promising the Cape Cod Fishermen's deputation protection, the inference to be drawn is that the Fishery and other clauses of the Washington Treaty, in which Canada is interested, will not be entertained by Congress. It is not at all likely they will be accepted by the people of the Dominion, who are not inclined to find fault with the President's actions.

The Dominion Board of Trade has met in Ottawa on the 17th, and closed its sittings on the 20th after a session marked by the great amount of business transacted.

The Press of the United States are discussing the annexation of Cuba and Mexico, in this evil course they are abetted by some English Journalists, in both countries Yankee politicians have made all government impossible and if they succeed in annexation they will have to set the iron heel of a military despotism on the unlucky inhabitants. The United States troops attacked a half-breed camp thirty miles within British Territory last fall, the homes and property of these people were destroyed.

The Legislature of Manitoba was opened on the 17th, His Grace Archbishop Tache arrived at St. Boniface on the same day and was addressed by the college students in seven different languages. There has been discoveries of the richest gold placers in the world on the Peace River in our Saskatchewan territories.

It is held by a writer in the United States *Army and Navy Journal* that the war ship of the future must, as a matter of necessity, be a Torpedo vessel, that the building of immense iron-clad vessels will be stopped before the experience of the past enable the naval architect to correct the faults of construction, and that no class of vessel except one of superior speed that will keep clear of those scourges of the sea can by any possibility be safe.

Apart from the consideration that the Torpedo itself is by no means perfect that it is subject to strange freaks, and at times utterly beyond control, there can be no doubt that the circumstances attending their use under these present state of development are not of a character to cause particular care for the safety of any iron-clad whose crew possessed ordinary skill as gunners.

In order to use those Torpedoes the conditions are that the vessel from which they are to be launched should succeed in passing closely a-head or astern of her opponents, during which operation she would be liable to be cut into match wood or blown out of the water by the powerful Naval Artillery in use, and even if she did succeed it is not at all certain that the machine would explode at the proper time. In fact it appears that the Torpedo vessel would stand in the same relation to the iron-clad that the fire ship occupied to the sailing ships of wood at the beginning of the eighteenth century. An adversary to be avoided in the days of unwieldy tubs, but of no account whatever and perfectly useless when met by coolness and skill.

In harbor defence it will play a more respectable part, no officer will willingly risk his vessel where they may be used without first having a hunt for the concealed enemy, and once found they may be destroyed or removed, and to be of any use they must be supported by powerful batteries inshore or floating batteries in shallow water.

To us the war ship of the future will be a lightly armed vessel carrying a heavy