



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On Thursday last the Ottawa Field Battery broke up camp and returned to town. None of the officers or men were sorry that the drill was at an end, for they have had very unfavorable weather for camping out in. Lieut. Colonel Wylie, of Brockville, Paymaster for this district, after the signing of the pay roll, handed the money to pay the men over to Captain Stewart. The Battery was unable to do their ball firing practice owing to the unfavorable state of the weather it has been postponed until the winter months, when it will take place upon the ice. Several other batteries in the Dominion, which have water ranges, have also postponed their firing until the winter months. While referring to the ball firing practice, it may be mentioned that Col. Jas. Egleson, has very generously given a silver cup, to be competed for by members of the Ottawa Field Battery.

At the meeting of the New York Athletic Club on Saturday, Harold Lamb, of the Argonaut Rowing Club of Toronto, won the mile race for the amateur championship of America.

At a meeting of the Reform Club in Manchester on Monday night, John Bright made a speech on the Eastern question. He said he thought the meeting of Parliament was desirable. It would result in a new policy, probably under a new Ministry; it would stamp the future policy of the country with the solemn decision that the blood and treasure of England should never again be wasted in behalf of the Ottoman power; Turkey should be left to the fate which Providence had decreed for her corruption and tyranny.

The correspondent of the *Times* at Alexandria telegraphs that there is every truth in the report that Kahr Pasha, the Egyptian commander in chief, and his staff, have been taken prisoners by the Abyssinians near Mossowah.

The *Times* correspondent at the Turkish headquarters of Sept. 2, says:—That Thursday's battle, both as regards the losses and the numbers engaged, was decidedly the greatest of the whole war. In the front towards Morava the Servian attack was merely directed against the Turkish bridge. The main attack against the Turkish left wing under Hafs Pasha, in order to cut off the Turkish retreat to Nisch. Sixteen Servian battalions also crossed the Morava at Drave, and advanced by way of Jessica against the Turkish right under Falzyle Pasha. This double flanking movement completely failed, and the Servians by noon were beaten back with great loss at all points. They subsequently renewed the attack against

the Turkish left three times, but were on every occasion repulsed with great loss. The Turks having kept on the defensive, their loss was only 350 wounded. Amongst the dead on the Servian side are many Russian officers. The officers had to drive the Servian soldiers to the attack at the sword's point.

A telegram to the *Times* from Belgrade says a despatch from the head-quarters of the army of the Morava announces that on Friday the Turks attacked the Servians on two sides: the fighting continued all day, and in the evening both sides maintained their positions. The fighting was resumed on Saturday; the Servians sustained considerable loss, the Russians displayed great bravery. Two Servian and 30 Russian officers were killed. The same despatch says a rumour reached Belgrade that Turkey will accept the peace conditions, provided Serbia be made to do so likewise. Four hundred Russians arrived at Belgrade on Saturday.

A special from Berlin to the *Times* says that considerable portions of the Russian army received orders to be ready for immediate concentration. Cavalry and field artillery are now on a war footing, and infantry ready to march.

The *Times*' Berlin correspondent gives substantially the same account of the Czar's letter to the Emperor of Austria as that given by its Paris correspondent and published this morning. He also says the Czar proposes that Serbia shall retain her present independence under Russian generals. Notwithstanding the serious steps taken by her there is a pretty general conviction that Russia does not wish to go to war. Austria's answer will probably refer the question of military occupation to the joint decision of the guaranteeing powers. In the parley which preceded the Czar's letter Russian diplomatists left no doubt as to the kind of independence they wished accorded the Servian Christian provinces. These provinces to belike Serbia and Rumania, all but independent under Christian government, supported by Christian soldiers, having no connection with the Porte except financially.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says:—The answer drawn up by Count Andrassy to the Russian letter, was submitted to the Emperor of Austria for his sanction. Andrassy had already communicated his views on the question to Francis Joseph, who had approved of them. The letter, therefore, will doubtless receive Imperial sanction, and will be ready for the Russian envoy to take with him when he leaves on the 5th instant. The Russian letter is a preliminary introduction to positive proposals. These proposals culminate in the de-

claration that the application and enforcement of the reforms proposed cannot be entrusted to Turkey; therefore the Powers are invited to come to an understanding about the guarantees to be demanded, to secure the application of the reforms promised. This question of guarantees is not new, having been often discussed in past years; but now that the Powers must give a decision on the subject, it is undoubtedly the weightiest that has yet come before them. Russia keeps normally to the English proposals, but thus proposes to go a step beyond a great step. It is involving, as it does, the taking out of the Porte's hands the future organization of Bosnia, Herzegovina and Bulgaria, and providing for the occupation of those provinces, although regarding the latter provision the Servian precedent hardly applies.

The *Times* in a leader says: Russia cannot too emphatically be warned that in proposing the occupation of Belgrade the Czar has misread the minds of Europe. The *Times* understands that it was not proposed that the Russian and Austrian fleets should watch the Bosphorus, but the fleets of England and France. There is no need for such a proposal as an English fleet is watching the Bosphorus now, and intends to remain there until the storm clouds blow away from the most coveted naval station in the world. But the schemes of Russian troops marching to Bulgaria is a masterpiece of boldness and audacity. Bulgaria is the key of Turkey. Should the Government of the Czar insist on its occupation, it will lay itself open to the darkest suspicions. Every country in Europe would say that its ardent championship in favor of the Christian subjects of the Porte was a cover for designs of conquest, and dreams of Pan slavism would spread a general alarm.

A despatch to the *Times* from Zerjiva states that 1,500 armed Austrian Slavonians entered Bosnia on Saturday; they are attacking the Moslems and inciting Christians to insurrection. The Turks are marching against them from Baljovatk.

The *Times* special from Vienna states that the reply of Francis Joseph to the letter of the Czar was handed yesterday to General Sumarokoff who departed for Livonia. The same despatch says the Porte's reply to the Powers is very grave, for it re-opens the whole question and strengthens the opinion of those who have maintained that mere persuasion was useless. A Reuter's telegram from Belgrade says: It is asserted that Russia has ordered her railways leading to Turkey and Roumania to place sixteen trains daily at her disposal, and a request to the same effect has been made to the Roumanian railways.