



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Gladstone Ministry has been defeated by a majority of 100 on a question of total taxation. Mr. Odger has pronounced against the Whig Radicals; the withdrawal of his patronage is political annihilation; this is the position the Liberals of Great Britain have brought their country into; its government is controlled by a demagogical cobbler.

The foolish young man O'Conner, who tried to signalize himself by an attack on the Queen has been tried and condemned to one year's imprisonment and twenty lashes.

The British Ministry has presented its counter case to the Geneva Board of Arbitration reserving the right of withdrawal in case the United States persisted in their demands. It is reported that Mr. Russell Gurney, the English Representative of the Board of Claims at Washington will proceed to Geneva and that he refuses to return to the United States.

The Lord Chief Justice Cockburn will not appear before the Geneva Tribunal.

An English vessel has been stopped and boarded by a Spanish War steamer, arms and ammunition were discovered on board and the vessel was carried into Bilbao; it is supposed she was freighted for the Spanish insurgents.

It is reported that the relations between France and Germany are in a threatening position, Prince Bismarck has notified M. Thiers that if the French armaments are not discontinued he will take it as a *casus belli* and re-occupy the departments already vacated. This news has caused a fall in the foreign securities on the English stock exchange.

Spain is again in the throes of revolution; one idiot at Seville harangued his dupes on the possibility of making an United States in Europe. There is nothing to chose between the conditions of that country and Mexico, both are governed by a scurvey lot of politicians, and the people are as ignorant and stupid as such dupes can be.

Public opinion in the United States is against the action of the Government with

respect to the Washington Treaty. The House of Representatives have provided a way of escape for the administration from the consequences of enforcing the consequential damage claims by coolly disowning them. A little firmness on the part of Great Britain would do wonders with those people, and prevent all the dangers arising from allowing irritating questions to be discussed.

The Parliament of the Dominion is in Session, a variety of important questions occupy the attention of our legislators: a vast territory has to be developed by railways and canals, the provisions of the Washington Treaty have to be considered, not with reference to Canada alone but to the whole Empire, and the necessary steps taken to carry out the measures decided on. In this last session of the first Parliament of Canada the representatives of the people on the Pacific Slopes of the Rocky Mountains have taken their places.

The Lieut.-Governor of Manitoba has resigned and been succeeded by His Honor Judge Johnson.

A number of workmen in the Laboratory at Woolwich Arsenal, are specially employed in the manufacture of "fish torpedoes," machines of iron, in shape somewhat like a fish, about 5 feet long and 1 foot in thickness, each containing a little engine of compressed air capable of propelling the torpedo a considerable distance under water.

United States papers think there are many evidences pointing to a struggle between England and Russia for the possession of India, which is likely to come off perhaps within this generation. Every new avenue of trade, whether railroad or canal, which is projected in Western Asia is now carefully examined in its bearing on this struggle. Just at present the project of the Euphrates Valley Railroad is strongly favoured in England because of its strategic importance in this anticipated contest, and an "Austrian officer of high rank," understood to be the officer who holds the highest rank in the Austrian service, has written a remarkable pamphlet in which the power of being able to hold this line is described as 'a factor of inestimable importance in the problem of this great contest.'

### FROM MONTREAL.

GRAND TRUNK BRIGADE.—The Concert of the Grand Trunk Brigade was a most successful affair, the Hall was filled and the appreciation of the audience could not fail to be gratifying to the performers. Mr. H. M. Scott and Mr. Armstrong were received with much favor in the several pieces they sang; Miss Brokovski sang "Waiting for the Tide" and another selection, receiving warm applause; Miss Beldon sang "La Florija" and a selection from Rossini, receiving an *encore*. Mrs. Henderson sang in very fine style "O'yo tears;" Mr. F. Boscovitz (pianist to the King of Portugal) was received with great applause, as also Mr. Emil Wahle on the Violin; the band of the Brigade rendered "La Troyatore," and the Railway Gallop, in a perfect manner. At the close of the concert the Hall was cleared up for dancing which was kept up till a late hour.—*Communicated*.

THE GRAND TRUNK BRIGADE ARMORY.—Since the appointment of that very popular officer Brigade Major P. W. Worsley, late H. M. 60th Rifles, the Grand Trunk Brigade Armory at Point St. Charles, Montreal, has been placed in a most efficient state as regards the arrangement of the arms, accoutrements, clothing &c. &c. The Rifles belonging to the force viz., six Rifle Companies, four Artillery, and one Engineer, are placed down the centre of the room piled per company around a circular stand, having on an ornamental pedestal arising from the inner circle, the No. of the Company and name of the Captain, opposite each pile are the accoutrements and clothing all numbered to correspond with those on the Rifles, the whole so arranged that in the event of a sudden call to turn out, no confusion would occur. The caretakers are nearly all old soldiers formerly belonging to the regular army, and the condition of the arms and appointments are in every respect, gratifying to behold and most creditable to all concerned.—*Communicated*.

The Dominion Rifle Association will hold their annual meeting at the Capital on the 1st of May.