



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Canadian House of Commons, will in all probability, be prorogued on Wednesday. The business of the lower Chamber was got through with on Saturday, it only remains for the upper Chamber to pass the bills sent up, which it is confidentially expected they will be enabled to do by Wednesday. On Friday, Mr. G. W. Ross' resolutions in regard to prohibition were adopted in Committee of the Whole and reported, as well as some other bills of a secondary character. The Civil Service bill, and the bill respecting Foreign Enlistment were laid over to next Session. The supplementary estimates were passed on Saturday which virtually closed the business of the Commons.

Major Cotton, of the Kingston School of Gunnery, and lately connected with the Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery, has been chosen by Lieut. Col. Gzowski as second officer in command of the Canadian Wimbledon Team for 1875.

The town of Pembroke has granted a bonus of \$75,000 in aid of the proposed extension of the Canada Central Railway to that town. It is held as a condition that the work shall be completed during the present year.

Mr. DeCosmos' resolution to create a court for the trial of divorce cases in each of the Provinces of the Dominion, was lost on a division, 134 to 5.

A staff of Engineers left Ottawa on Saturday for Manitoba, under the direction of the Public Works Department, to examine the west side of the Red River, with a view to its practicability as a route for the Pembina Branch Railway at Winnipeg.

The Ottawa and Rideau Forwarding Company, as soon as Navigation opens, will load several barges for New York. They will be the first Canadian barges that have ever passed through the American canals.

Harry Moody, formerly Secretary to the Lieut. Governor of New Brunswick, will succeed Col. Fletcher as Military Secretary to the Governor General.

Several members of Parliament propose to introduce an Act to encourage the planting of forest trees. A bounty of 25 cents is to be paid for every oak, white pine, hickory, maple or beech tree planted.

The trial of W. G. Graves and Dr. Sparham at Brockville for the murder of Sophie E. Burnham, has concluded by the prisoners being found guilty and sentenced to be hanged on the 23rd June.

His Excellency the Governor General will sail for England on the 1st of May. He will carry with him the good wishes of the whole Dominion for a pleasant voyage and a speedy return to Canada.

The Montreal ice dealers have stored away large quantities of ice impregnated with the city sewage. No wonder the complaint is officially made that Montreal is the most unhealthy city on this continent, the death rate largely exceeding that of New York, or even Calcutta.

The New Brunswickers are taken steps to have a Provincial Industrial Fair about the beginning of September next.

A party of surveyors will leave for British Columbia next week, to complete the Pacific Railway Survey.

Toronto intends to import 200 English sparrows this summer.

A despatch from Fort Garry announces that the Hon. A. G. Bannatyne has been returned to the Dominion Parliament for the County of Provencher, in the place of Louis Riel.

According to statistics obtained from Protestant sources 30,000 Spaniards have been converted to Protestantism since 1868. The Protestant chapels in Madrid, and elsewhere in the country continue open.

We observe in the London *Times* of the 2nd March that at the Royal Levee held at St. James' Palace on the 1st March, Colonel Robertson Ross, late Adjutant General of Militia, Canada, was presented by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, on the occasion of his recent appointment to the command of the 9th Brigade District in England.

Mr. Layard has presented his credentials to King Alfonso. According to the Madrid correspondent of the *Times*, Mr. Layard expressed Queen Victoria's hope that his Majesty's reign would be marked by a constitutional, enlightened, and tolerant policy. In the King's reply, which was very complimentary in other respects, there was no echo or notice of these sentiments. The same reticence was observed in the King's answer to the address of the German Minister. The semi-official journal *La Epoca* announces that the papal Nuncio is expected to arrive shortly at Madrid.

Spain has paid to Germany eleven thousand thalers of the indemnity for the Gustav outrage.

A motion made in the French National Assembly to reconstitute Paris the capital of France, was defeated by fifty nine votes.

The S. S. *Faraday* sails on Sunday, to finish the laying of the Direct Cable.

Wm. Thomas Henley, telegraph engineer and contractor, London, England, has failed. Liabilities, £2,500.

A movement is on foot to establish British public houses without intoxicating drink. At a public meeting in Glasgow on the 24th ult., a number of gentlemen were appointed a committee for the purpose of giving practical shape to the movement.

The *Manchester Guardian's* London correspondent states that "a very high authority in India" has written a letter in which he expresses the opinion that the native army in India at present is in every respect better than that which mutined. It is in every way more efficient, both as to drill, as to officers, and as to material, and the men individually take more pride in their respective corps.

John Martin, another of the Irish agitators, and member of Parliament for Meath, died on the 29th ult., aged 63 years.

The British Commissioners for the Philadelphia exhibition have sent circulars to three thousand persons who have taken part in exhibitions and agricultural shows in this country during the last seven years, and also to Chambers of Commerce and heads of municipalities throughout the British Isles. The answers already received indicate that Ireland and the North of England will be well represented at the Centennial exhibition.

Mr. George Smith informs the *Daily Telegraph* that some of the Assyrian tablets discovered by Mr. Smith and presented by the proprietors of the *Telegraph* to the British Museum, contain a much longer and fuller account of the creation and fall of man than the Book of Genesis. In particular, the fall of Satan, which in the Bible is only assumed, is in these records reported at length, and the description of this being is characterized by Mr. Smith as "really magnificent."

A special despatch to the *Times*, from Trieste, says great preparations are being made for the inauguration of the monument in memory of Maximilian. The ceremony takes place early in April. All the companions of the Emperor, in Mexico, have been invited to attend.

A special despatch to the *Post*, from Berlin, says a financial crisis is feared there. Settlements on the Bourse are effected with great difficulty. There have been twenty-eight failures, and two persons have committed suicide in consequence of financial reverses.

The German Crown Prince has, and is entitled to wear, fifty-eight stars and crosses. Bismarck's decorations amount to forty, and Gen. Moltke thirty nine.

The *Bombay Gazette* states that the man who personated Nana Sahib died at Gwalior a few days after he had been given back to Scindia.