

Mechanics Institute
Box 162

Woodstock Journal.

"He is a Freeman whom the Truth makes Free, And all are Slaves beside."

VOLUME 5.

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OUR PAPER.

The Woodstock Journal is a large eight-page weekly, devoted to the advancement of the industrial, commercial, social and moral interests of New Brunswick.

The objects at which it particularly aims in the present circumstances of the country are a promotion of immigration, the settlement of the wild lands, the opening of the country by means of railroads, &c., an increase of the schools of all grades, from the lowest to the highest being open to all without money without price, and supported by Direct Taxation.

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ADDRESS: Wm. R. Melville, Editor of the Journal, Woodstock, N. B.

By arrangements with the proprietors of the following periodicals we are enabled to offer them with the Journal at the low rates mentioned.

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Miscellaneous.

MILITARY FORCES OF EUROPEAN NATIONS.—The prospect of war in Europe renders a glance at the extent of military preparation there somewhat interesting at this time.

It appears from official statements made as late as the 16th of February last, that the military forces of Europe embraced more than four millions of soldiers under arms, without counting sailors, garrisons, civil, national, or militia of all kinds, of which the number reaches a much larger figure.

The effective force of France on the 1st June 1858 was 672,400 men, 165 batteries de campagne; marine, 417 vessels of war, 300 sailing, 117 steamers, 27,000 mariners.

The Austrian army consists of 670,477 men of which 520,400 were infantry, 70,300 cavalry, 59,292 artillery, 11,116 engineers, 9,217 pontoneers; marine, 104 vessels of war.

The Prussian army consists of 525,366, of which 419,000 are of the active force, and Landwehr of 1st con; marine, 50 vessels of war, 3,500 mariners.

England has an army of 229,000 men, including those dispersed in the colonies; marine, 600 vessels of war, 309 sailing, 251 steam; 40 vessels of the line, carrying 17,292 guns and 60,500 sailors.

The Russian army consists of 1,637,600 men, including the reserves; and 224,000 irregulars; marine, 177 vessels, 62,000 marines and gunners.

Spain has a peace establishment of 75,000 troops, and for war 500,600; marine, 410 vessels, 15,000 mariners.

The Sardinian army consists of 50,600 men; marine 40 vessels, and 2,560 sailors.

Two Sicilies.—The army is 100,000, of which 10,000 are Swiss; marine, 60 vessels, 12 sailing, 25 steamers, 100 cannoniers, 5,362 sailors.

Rome maintains an army of 16,000, infantry and 1,515 cavalry. Tuscany has an army of 16,000 men.

The German States have a federal army of 250,000 men. The German Confederation have an army of 525,000 men, 49,500 cavalry, including the Austrian and Prussian contingents.

London has grown like a mighty tree, by extension rather than by the internal aggregation of constituent parts; and while foreign cities, girded round by walls, have grown denser, and have risen vertically, London has extended its boundaries freely all around, and covers now 78,029 acres—31,576 hectares—121 square miles—a square of eleven miles to the side. The population in this area amounted in the year 1801 to 958,863 and in the year 1851 to 2,362,236. The London of 1858 is equal to three Londons of 1801.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR'S PROPOSITIONS OF PEACE.

Like the Pagan Jupiter, who at one time covered the heavens with frightful storms, which, at another time, he, the same Jupiter, with equal celerity removed, the Emperor Napoleon, after having terrified us so long with the rumors of approaching war, now deigns to soothe us with the accents of peace and security. It was full time. The prospects of a year of uncommon promise have been partly blighted, and more than two months already lost to the friends of civilization and advancement, by the generally diffused dread of a European war. When a few words can so easily allay the terrors that convulse the world, we may naturally regret that they have so long remained unspoken, and that our hearts have been allowed to wander in that outer darkness, which a single ray of that light, which burns like Rosicrucian flame in the sacred bureau of the *Moniteur*, could so speedily and entirely dispel. We do not relish practical jokes, and we certainly should hardly have suspected that so much grave humor could lurk in the Imperial breast. To hoax a whole continent is a joke on a most gigantic scale, so large that it ceases to be a joke at all. The student of the history of Rome is struck against his will with a kind of keeping or fitness between the enormous crimes of the Caesars and the stupendous theatres on which they were perpetrated; and the false alarm in which Europe has been plunged during the last two months is on a scale worthy of the Prince who has caused it. However, thank Heaven! the period of groundless terror is at an end. The merry gentleman who has dressed himself up as a ghost to frighten us, has resumed his ordinary habiliments, and the grinning mask and turning lantern shake our nerves no more. It was very dreadful while it lasted, but now we know that it meant nothing, and are reassured accordingly. We can assure the Emperor of the French that no Mohammedan prisoner ever listened to the preaching of the Koran under the uplifted semitars of his conquerors, no fair haired Saxon placed between the preacher and the executioner heard Charlemagne's Bishop with a more sincere and ardent desire to be converted, than we do when, through the columns of the *Moniteur*, he attempts to persuade us that we have been altogether wrong in supposing for a moment that there was the slightest probability of the disturbance of the peace of Europe. No one ever desired more earnestly to be persuaded.

We therefore receive with the most unhesitating belief the assertion of the non-official portion of the *Moniteur*, which seems always peculiarly set apart for official communications, that the language of the French journals is not in any way to be confounded with that of the Government, and that though they say, without warning or censure, breathe the very flames of war, we must not on that account entertain the slightest doubt of the continuance of peace until the Government itself shall formally announce the commencement of hostilities. This is indeed a comfortable doctrine, and frees us at once from all those ghastly apprehensions of impending war which the recent remarks of the *Frederic*,

and the *Seiela*, and, perhaps, the circular of the Minister of the Interior, may have inspired. We are only too willing to recent our heresies. We are delighted to believe "that our inquietudes are ill founded," and that, while we were half inclined to suppose something less complimentary, the Emperor is only "prudent, loyal, and vigilant; and that he has promised to assist Piedmont in case of her invasion by Austria, but has promised nothing more. We are willing to confess with shame and consternation that we have mistaken the provision of difficulties and the weighing of consequences for something more immediately connected with action, and we learn with grief that in so doing we have been guilty of imagination, falsehood and madness. We admit that we mistook for an establishment on a war footing that army, that navy, and that material which the Emperor has established for the purpose of profound peace; and that to buy 4,000 horses for the artillery is quite within regulation limits, and the most natural thing in the world for a State whose only object is to allay the apprehensions of its neighbors. Like us, France has to change the nature of her artillery; like us she has to reconstruct her navy. How could we confound the bustle in her arsenals occasioned by these purely pacific labors with the din and tumult that herald the calamities of a coming war? Who could grudge France the construction of four frigates to transport her troops from France to Algeria, and from Algeria to France, and who could misconstrue the four mixed transports destined to provide for the wants of Civita Vecchia and the re-equipping of the expedition to Cochinchina? How could we ever "throw clouds on so clear a situation," or lend publicity to those "vague and absurd" rumors which represented "to public credulity" the Emperor of the French as seriously preparing for war? We submit humbly to the rebuke of the *Moniteur*, and desire nothing more than that the Emperor will condescend to prove beneficent by his actions as conclusively as already by his words how vain and idle have been our apprehensions. We will enter into no argument to disprove any of his statements. Let him but make them true for the future, and we are quite content that he should assume them to be true for the past. We desire no victory in the controversy, we ask for nothing but peace, and if that peace, from some rebellious efforts of our reason, shall be found to "pass all understanding" as Sir Francis Head says, we will not object to it on that account. Whether it be the pleasure of the Emperor of the French to be induced by the remonstrances of his Senate, his Ministers, and his people, to exchange war for peace; or whether, as now, he labors to expunge all Europe—the territories which have signified their consent to no part of it more than his own dominions—are vague and groundless hallucinations, we will show ourselves equally docile and tractable if he will only take care that the future, at least, shall be in accordance with his view of the past. No assurances shall be asked, no awkward reminiscences shall be invoked; pamphlets, speeches, and circulars shall be buried in the oblivion pool deeper than even Froese's books, the happier if in exchange for these or any other concessions we can receive an assurance that the peace of Europe will remain intact. We fear that the error has originated from our not having formed a sufficiently magnificent and military notion of the true nature of peace, and not having observed in vast military monarchies how close is the relation that Peace bears to War. We cannot allege a better instance of this than that while the ministers of the Empire are engaged in substituting a more powerful but much lighter artillery for the guns already in use, it is necessary at the same time to buy up suddenly 4,000 new horses to move the newly created batteries. We will endeavor to cultivate more military notions of peace, vigilance, foresight, and loyalty, and all the other fine things the *Moniteur* promises us, and perhaps when we have done so we shall be better able to do justice to the present intentions and future prospects of France.

We trust, however, we may be forgiven the wish that the new kind of Peace the Emperor has invented could be a little less expensive to his neighbors, and that France could be induced to sit under her vine and her fig-tree, to reap her harvests and press her olives, without a tremendous apparatus of the materials of destruction, which though it doubtless contributes much to her domestic peace and happiness, and the development of her resources, and the economy of her finances, imposes a most

serious and intolerable burden in the shape of counter preparations upon us, her less fortunate and wealthy neighbors and allies. We are delighted to hear that she is cultivating the arts of peace, only our growing mercantile spirit makes us wish that they could be cultivated at a less expense of money, of credit, and of security. *London Times*, March 8.

WRECK OF A BRITISH MAN-OF-WAR.—SERIOUS LOSS OF LIFE.—The New York Post of Saturday gives the following account of the loss of a British vessel of war: "Mr. Samuel Dunbar, a passenger from Havana on the steamship Karnak, which arrived at this port at 1 o'clock this morning, has given our reporter the details of a terrible shipwreck off the coast of Jamaica. It appears that the intelligence of the disaster had not been made public before the closing of the mails for New York, but that the news arrived from a port on the south of the island, a short time before the sailing of the Karnak, and Mr. Dunbar accidentally came in possession of the main facts, and what we state rests solely upon his authority.

The British war steamer *Jasseur*, which was lying at Jamaica on the 1st instant, received orders to set out immediately on a cruising voyage, and directly sailed from that port. On the night of the 4th inst. she struck a hidden rock to the northward of Jamaica. The pumps were immediately manned and kept working until daylight, when it was discovered that the water was rapidly gaining, and that it would be impossible to keep her up but a short time. The captain ordered a raft to be constructed, and to this raft were attached the two tops belonging to the vessel, and the men, sixty in number, all went aboard, with such scanty provisions as they were able to secure from the sinking wreck.

A heavy gale set in soon after the men took to the raft, and they had not been out above two hours when two of the men were swept overboard and drowned. All efforts to rescue them were hopeless, the men had all they could do to prevent being washed away after them. The captain, seeing it was useless to cling longer to the raft, took nineteen men with him in the smaller boat, and the mate the remaining twenty-nine into the larger one. It was considered useless to attempt to keep together, and the captain said they would each make the best of their way to the land, without reference to each other. In a short time the boats were separated by the wind, and the larger boat, containing thirty men, has not been heard of since, and is believed to have been lost with all on board.

The little provision the men on the small boat had taken with them was soon consumed, and the wretched party was subjected to the double sufferings of cold and famine. At last, when all were completely exhausted and perishing, the boat was driven to a port on the Southern coast of Cuba, and the entire party survived.

The government immediately sent out two vessels to cruise in search of the missing boat; but their search had proved fruitless.

AN AMERICAN VESSEL CAPTURED BY INDIANS.—The San Francisco papers publish a letter from David K. Welden, late master of the brig *Swiss Boy*, giving an account of the capture of his vessel by the Indians of Vancouver's Island, and the temporary captivity of himself and crew among savages. It seems that the *Swiss Boy* sailed from Port Orchard, Washington Territory, January 28, with a cargo of lumber for San Francisco. The next day, during a gale of wind, the vessel sprung a leak, and, as it increased rapidly, her head was turned to land. On the 30th Vancouver's Island was made, and the brig was run into Nilnas Sound. On the 31st the vessel was worked to within three hundred yards of the beach, where it was intended

to lay her for repairs, when a party of 300 armed Indians, part of whom were on board, and the rest in canoes alongside, took possession of the vessel, and after robbing the cabin of its contents, cut up the sails and rigging.

The captain and crew escaped to the shore in a boat, but were immediately taken prisoners and held for ten days, when they were allowed to depart under promise of the captain that he would return with a ship-load of presents for the Indians. During their captivity their lives were frequently threatened. Capt. Welden and his men arrived at Victoria Feb. 15, when the Governor offered to send the "Satellite" to recover the brig and her cargo, but as when last seen she was on fire, the offer was declined. Governor Douglas told Captain Welden that the brig was a lawful prize; that he had no right to go into any harbor in Vancouver Island, in distress, except a port of entry, as his vessel was under a foreign flag.

A LOSS OF THREE THOUSAND LIVES.—Near Taganrog, on the Sea of Azoff, a catastrophe occurred, about the beginning of February last, which involved a loss of life unparalleled except by memorable earthquakes of volcanic eruptions. It appears that some three thousand inhabitants of Taganrog relying on the promises of fair weather made by the genial atmosphere and the cloudless sky, proceeded to the Azoff Sea to indulge in the sport of fishing beneath the ice—a favourite pastime of that region. The atmosphere continuing serene, the party were lulled into a feeling of security, and ventured further than usual upon the ice, in the hope of obtaining a good haul. Suddenly a breeze sprang up from the east, which growing boisterous by degrees, whirled the loose snow and fine particles of ice in all directions, and before long succeeded in detaching the ice from the shore. The large ice field then broke into numerous pieces, which with their terrified and helpless human freight, drifted towards the open sea. No assistance could be rendered the unhappy beings by their frantic relatives and friends on shore, and within two hours not a sign of life was visible on the surface of the sea. On the following day a cake of ice drifted in shore upon which were five unfortunate—three of them dead, and the other two numb and insensible. The two latter—a girl and an old man—were restored by means of the usual appliances; the girl, however, survived but a few hours; the man recovered, but lost the use of his tongue—a consequence, probably, of the fright caused by the scenes he had passed through. He prepared a written narrative of the occurrence of that fearful night on the Azoff. By this catastrophe at least three thousand persons found a watery grave.

KOSSUTH IN THE FIELD.—The *Eco d'Italia* of March 19th learns from good authority, which it is not allowed to name, that the Hungarian patriot Kossuth passed through France, with the consent and connivance of the French Government, and arrived incognito at Genoa. It is supposed that he will place himself at the head of the Hungarian soldiers now in Lombardy. It is a well-known fact that during the last ten years Kossuth has been studying military science.

It is affirmed that in the last ten years 4,000,000 of immigrants have reached the shores of the United States, each bringing on an average \$100 in gold making an aggregate of \$400,000,000 of currency.

Southern papers concur in the statement that vegetation in that latitude is at least one month in advance of ordinary years. Fruit trees are in blossom, and flowers of various kinds are in full bloom.

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of the most common and virulent diseases of the internal organs; and its internal use is anti-inflammatory, and its anti-inflammatory effect is Nature's great ally.

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of many years standing that have refused to yield to any other treatment, have invariably received applications of this powerful ointment.

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all assortment of all kinds of weighing scales and store furniture for sale at low prices.

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Articles ordering by this route will be taken to delivery of the goods at St. John's, and the freight will be paid at Howard Settlement and provided transport from that place.

HALL & FAIRBANKS

St. John, Dec 1, 1858