



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Hon. Mr. Vail, Minister of Militia, returned to Ottawa on the 30th inst., from Nova Scotia.

We understand the City Engineer has prepared plans for the construction of Major's Hill into a public park. They will be submitted to the Public Works Department for approval in a few days. Fountains are to be erected, walks made, cannons mounted, and shade trees planted. An ornamental iron fence will be constructed on the front of the park facing the bridges. When completed, the capital may feel proud of the grounds as the situation is first class. The sum appropriated by the Council for these improvements is \$10,000.

From all parts of the Ottawa valley we learn that the crops are in a most flourishing condition, and promise an abundant yield. And in fact the same may be said of every other portion of Canada—so that the crop this year will be an average one at least.

In pursuance of the postal convention between Canada and the United States, money orders after the 2nd of August will pass between the two countries at the following rates:—For sums not exceeding \$20 Canadian currency 25 cents commission; not exceeding \$40, 50 cents.

Mr. George Frederick Smith, of Ottawa, son of the Deputy Minister of Marine, has been appointed by the Lords of the Admiralty a Lieutenant in Her Majesty's fleet.

The steamship *Quebec*, of the Dominion line, took on board on Tuesday, the 27th ult., 115 head of cattle for England. Of sixty forty five belong to Mr. Shields and thirty one to Messrs. Reeves and Price, of Toronto. Mr. J. Price accompanies the cattle to Liverpool.

The *Glasgow Mail* of the 3rd ult. says:—“It is expected that Mr. Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada, who is at present on a tour through this country, will visit Greenock, and will attend a conference of the Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the Clyde and Canadian trade.”

The *New York Herald* says:—“Canada is taking an interest in our Centennial, and the western towns of Ontario will hold meetings soon to arrange for a proper representation in the exhibition. Well, we shall welcome our Canadian neighbours all the more warmly because they, too, will show that America has done in the last hundred years.”

A Toronto gentleman got very drunk on Saturday, and while sleeping it off, a number of his friends put him into a coffin and watched by his side. When he awoke he was in a horrible fright, and springing out of the coffin ran home and fell down in a faint.

The seventh annual prize meeting of the Ontario Rifle Association is advertised to be held on the Toronto ranges, commencing at 12 noon, on Tuesday the 31st of August. The programme, down to the eighth match, is precisely the same as last year, except that the entrance fees have all been made 75c per competitor. The eighth match is something new in Canada, and if the cavalry only present themselves in sufficient numbers, will prove highly interesting. It is similar in its terms to the famous Lloyd Lindsay competition which affords so much excitement each year at Wimbledon. The rule respecting rifles has also been amended so as to admit those of *bona fide* Government pattern though not of “Government issue.”

Canadians will be pleased to learn that they will enjoy the benefits of the new International Postal Treaty immediately after the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie returns to Canada.

The Ontario Advisory Board intend calling a public meeting, shortly of the manufacturers of Ottawa and the surrounding district, to consult with them concerning to representation of the manufacturing industries of this section at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition next year. It is to be hoped the Ottawa Valley will be creditably represented on that occasion.

Mr. Murray of Hamilton has noticed an insect resembling the Colorado beetle that attacks the latter and destroys them. A warm welcome awaits the arrival of the insect in this vicinity.

The Right Hon. H. C. E. Childers, M.P., has consented, at the request of Lord Dufferin, to take an important part in an arbitration at Charlottetown, to decide the price at which the freehold of the centre of Prince Edward's Island, was granted in great blocks of many thousand acres each to 70 persons rather more than a hundred years ago, is to be bought back.

Senator Kaulback's house and barn at Lunenburg, N.S., were destroyed by fire on the night of the 28th July. The family barely escaped with their lives. But we regret to add a servant man and woman were burned to death.

The American team, with Major General McMurdo, visited Woolwich Arsenal on the 28th July. They were received by Col. F. A. Campbell, the retiring Superintendent, Col. Youngusband, his successor, Deputy Assistant Superintendent R. S. Fraser, inventor of the heavy guns, and Cols. Lyons, Field, and Gordon, who accompanied them through the works. The visitors had an opportunity of witnessing the manufacture of eighty ton guns. Every facility and courtesy was shown them by the officers of the institution.

An officer of the French army wore his uniform about the streets of Rome the other day, and was on the point of being mobbed by the indignant citizens when the police took him under their protection. That uniform is not very popular among the Romans owing to Napoleon III.'s military occupation of the city.

So large were the hailstones which fell at Damascus in a tempest which visited that city on the 1st of June, that three men were killed by them and eight wounded.

Hearafter the Prussian Government will levy a tax on beer and on stock operations, in order to meet a deficit of \$5,000,000 in the annual budget.

Gambetta has been elected a member of the Cobden Club of London, and returned thanks in a letter highly eulogistic of Albion as the friend of France.

The Vienna press reports that the Government of Bosnia has telegraphed to the Porte that the operations of Turkish troops at Mevesesigne and Belek have resulted in the dispersion of the insurgent bands near these places.

A curious episode in the railroad station at Lincoln, Neb., the other day, was a Menonite divorce. The man was anxious to go to Dakota, and his wife was equally anxious to remain, so, after a long argument in Russian and German, they sat down on the floor and opening a box containing \$2,000 in gold, counted it out, piece by piece, the man taking one half and the woman the other. They then shook hands and separated, the man taking the train for Dakota.

The Mobile papers state that two men recently dug up in Mobile Bay, an iron box containing \$75,000 in gold, which had been buried there years ago by the pirate Lafitte.

Constantinople, 30th.—It is reported that the Grand Vizier has been dismissed from office.

The British Channel Tunnel Bill passed the House of Lords on the 30th ult.

Sir Charles Adelerly's Shipping Bill passed the second reading on the 30th ult. in the House of Commons without discussion.

A despatch from Norfolk, Va., says that Major General Pickett, the Confederate hero of Gettysburg, lies at the point of death. His physicians believe he cannot live many hours.

A returned Fenian convict, named Patrick Walsh, has been sentenced, at Limerick, to six years penal servitude for having returned from America before his period of penal servitude had expired.

A Cyclone passed through Fountain County, Ind., last Sunday, July 25th, doing great damage. Five women were killed.