



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

London advices of the 23rd September says a despatch from Teheran announces the return of the Shah of Persia to his capital. The whole population turned out to escort him to the palace. The Shah in a brief speech, said that he had visited all the principal institutions of Europe, with the special object of introducing what he saw good in them into the administration of his Government.

The steam yacht *Deerhound* and crew have been released, by the Spanish authorities.

By a terrific explosion on the steamer *Brandenburgh*, one hundred miles from Gibraltar, four persons were instantly killed, and many more scalded, some fatally.

Morton who personally attended Captain Hall to the moment of his death, makes the statement that Hall returned to perfect health from his journey which preceded his final illness. He was a short time in his cabin where he took some morphine and immediately afterwards became sick and vomited. Hall said they were poisoning him, Morton evidently believes the same thing. He also suspected the subsequent medical treatment. He has, however, a violent feeling against the doctor, which may color his judgment.

The examination of the witnesses for the defence in the Tichborne case still continues. Several Australian witnesses have been in the box who swore that they knew the defendant as Castro in the colony, and some of them that they were also well acquainted with Arthur Orton who was a different person. Some of the so-called "Tichborne" witnesses must have been also under examination.

The Coast Guard officers boarded the steamer *Murillo* immediately upon her arrival in English waters. Her coming here is considered a virtual surrender for the purpose of settling the question of liability. The Spanish Consul is held responsible for her custody while she remains in the Port of Dover. It is also expected that the vessel will be sent to London where the

case will be tried. Her present captain is not the same as commanded her at the time of the collision with the *Northfleet*. There is much excitement at Dover over her presence and her detention. She is anchored close to the battery.

The entire British fleet in Spanish waters is collected in the harbour of Alicante, which city is threatened with bombardment by the insurgent ironclads. The British admiral has demanded of the insurgent commander a postponement of hostilities for four days, and is supported in his demand by all foreign consuls.

There is a report that the Russians are not finding things so comfortable in Central Asia as they expected, and that a serious insurrection took place in Khiva itself, which led to the Russian commander asking leave to raise the whole city to the ground. The report has been officially contradicted, but in such terms as to lead to the impression that there is at any rate considerable dissatisfaction.

It is reported that John Bright is opposed to the war against the Ashantees, and will resign his position in the Cabinet if it is further prosecuted.

A despatch from Alicante of a later date than the despatches from Madrid, denies that the insurgent vessels have left, and says they are in the harbour, and will commence the bombardment of the city.

Gambetta intends to make another political tour through Southern and Western departments this autumn. He will address the public at Bordeaux and other large cities.

The Royalists have hopes of a division in the Bonapartists ranks. The Spanish faction is disposed to act in conjunction with the Royalists while McMahon and his friends are opposed to a prolongation of the present provisional regime.

It is officially stated that the situation of the Carlists in the north is precarious. Desertion from their ranks is increasing and demoralization spreading. The discipline of Republican troops is vastly improved.

Gen. Garibaldi in a letter to Senor Castelar tenders his sword in the service of the

Republic. The President replies thanking the General for his noble offer, but declaring that Spain now needs no assistance.

Madrid, Sept. 24.—The insurgent frigates left the harbour of Alicante because the foreign consuls, except the representative of Great Britain, protested against the bombardment of the city. The British consul, for some unknown reason, refused to join in the protest.

A despatch from Alicante of a later date than the despatches from Madrid, denies that the insurgent vessels have left there, and says they are in the harbour and will commence the bombardment of the city to-morrow.

President Castelar has had an important conference with Marshal Serrano and Admiral Topete, the result of which is represented to be most favourable to the country.

The Bank of France has agreed to advance 100,000,000 francs to the Spanish Government.

Admiral Yelverton is in command of the British fleet at Alicante.

The *Imparcial* says the insurgent vessels in the harbour of Alicante have left for Cartagena. The *Epoch* applauds the action of Admiral Yelverton in preventing an attack by the insurgent fleet upon Alicante. Gen. Rouvillas has been appointed President of the Supreme Council of War, Gen. Pairs Captain-General of Madrid, and Gen. Jouvellar Captain-General of Cuba, vice Gen. Piellán, who is re-called.

A conflagration in Smyrna has destroyed property to the amount of \$300,000.

The King of Italy took leave of the Emperor, Francis Joseph, on the 21st Sept. and left for Berlin where he arrived on the 22nd Sept. and was received with marked cordiality by the court and great enthusiasm by the populace.

General Mantuffel who was Commander in chief of the German army of occupation in France has been appointed Field Marshal.

It is rumoured that one of the objects of King Victor Emanuel's visit to Prussia is to secure an understanding with the Emperor for joint action against possible French aggression.