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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Hon. Mr. Vail, Minister of Militia, returned to Ottawa last week from his visit to the Maritime Provinces.

Hon. Mr. Burpee left Ottawa on Monday on an official visit to the Maritime Provinces, and will be absent two or three weeks.

Chief Justice Richards was sworn in on Saturday as Deputy Governor, under commission of His Excellency the Governor General, to act during the absence of His Excellency in British Columbia.

His Excellency the Governor General was attended on his departure on Monday morning by a guard of honor from the Governor General's Foot Guards, comprising Captain Weatherly, Lieut. Aumond, Ensign White, and 100 men, the Queen's colors, and the full band of the regiment. A detachment of the Ottawa Brigade Garrison Artillery, under command of Lieutenant Maingy, fired a salute of seventeen guns on the occasion from Barrack Hill Battery.

We understand that the Australian Wimbledon Rifle Team, now on their way to Canada, will stay a short time at Toronto, before proceeding homewards by San Francisco. It is their intention to compete at the Ontario Rifle Association matches to come off during their visit. They will be joined at Toronto by other Australian riflemen, who are now on their way thither via San Francisco. Application on their behalf was made to the Minister of Militia for the use of the Toronto Garrison Buildings during their sojourn, which, we are happy to say, the Hon. Mr. Vail cordially assented to.

Major McLeod having again taken command of the North West Mound Police Force, Lieut. Col. Richardson, of the Department of Justice, has been appointed Stipendiary Magistrate of the Territories.

Count and Countess Von Arnim, of Berlin, and suite, arrived in Montreal on the 29th, and are staying at the St. Lawrence Hall.

The steamer *Avondale* arrived at Montreal on the 29th with 1,260 tons of steel rails and 74 tons of fish plates for the Montreal, Ottawa and Western Railroad.

The *Winnipeg Standard* of July 15th, says Major Kennedy, commanding the Winnipeg Field Battery, had received from Lieut. Col. Smith, D.A.C., information that two 6 pounder muzzle loading guns, with ammunition, harness, etc., and everything complete, had been sent for the armament of the battery and that other guns will be forwarded as soon as possible. Two guns of a similar pattern are now at Fort Osborne, and are estimated to be very excellent arms, and of a kind likely to be most effective in case of active service. It is a cause of regret that the Battery will not be able to go out to camp

this season, as the Government has so far limited the expenditure to be made for horses as to render it, in the opinion of the officers, useless to go out. The Battery is the only volunteer organization in the Province, and ought certainly to be encouraged by the Dominion authorities and put upon a fair footing."

The *Standard* also says:—"The last lot of Mennonites that arrived at Dufferin brought with them, for their friends who had preceded them, nearly \$200,000 in gold, the proceeds of the sale of their estate in Russia."

Recent despatches from the North West says that the American Sioux tribes have sent deputations to the Canadian Sioux and Blackfoot Indians of the North West seeking an offensive and defensive alliance against the white race generally; and when that offer was rejected by the loyal Indians of the North West, a proposition was made to join the Southern tribes in their war against the United States. This also was rejected by the Canadian Indians, who have by this added to the many evidences of their appreciation of the just manner in which they are treated by the Canadian Government, and their desire to live at peace.

Mr. W. G. Grace, the famous English cricketer, has made many extraordinary scores in the defence of his wicket; but the score made on the 10th ult. in a match between the United South of England eleven vs. twenty-two of Grimby eclipse any of his previous achievements. He was nearly three days at the wicket, and retired after making a score of 681, carrying his bat out in the first innings with a score of 400.

The Press of Constantinople is breathing more freely just at present in consequence of the appointment of a new director, whose first act has been to obtain a free pardon for all past offences, so that all the newspapers under suspension are about to reappear. Blackney Bey, the gentleman referred to, was formerly Ottoman Minister to the United States. He is, however, a Frenchman by birth, and was in early life a newspaper man. Under the new auspices a Turkish paper has been found bold enough to stand up for the liberty of the Press.

Colonel Valentine Baker, the talented, but unfortunate soldier, who was dismissed from the British service, and who has just completed a term of imprisonment for an indecent assault in a railway carriage on a young lady, has accepted an engagement from the Turkish government, and gone to the seat of war.

A telegram from Galatz reports that 7,000 Tcherkessans have revolted against the Russians in the Caucasus, and are overpowering the garrisons.

A correspondent of the *Liverpool Journal* says that, according to the belief of most persons, Russia is insolvent, i. e., will not much longer be able to pay the interest upon her debts, because hitherto she has been paying by means of fresh loans, which are now no longer to be had. One London weekly has plainly affirmed that the annual deficit in Russia is about fifteen millions sterling. The *Economist* takes a more hopeful view, but is compelled to admit that Russia could not stand a war of the first magnitude, and that, if she attempted it, "the whole thing would go to pieces."

The *London News'* Madeira special says:—"The blockade of the ports of Dahomy was declared on the 1st July. The British man-of-war *Spiteful* is stationed at Whydot, and the *Ariel* at Little Popo. Vessels in the blockaded ports will be allowed 30 days to load and depart. It is not intended to attack Dahomy from sea. An available force will go to Porto Nova and thence to the Capital.

Latest arrivals from China report that disastrous inundations at Foo Chow and the surrounding country commenced on June the 10th and ended on the 15th. The flood was the highest within foreign remembrance. There was great loss of life, 7,000 bodies having been estimated near Foo Chow alone. Foreign property was slightly damaged.

The Most Rev. Samuel Bucher, Bishop of Meath, the Premier Bishop of Ireland, is dead.

The Government powder magazine at Toulouse, France, has been blown up; there was a great loss of life.

The *Telegraph's* Berlin special says that Prussia is making preparations to mobilize her whole army.

Austria too has issued instructions to the municipal authorities to prepare for the immediate mobilization of the army.

Considerable excitement exists in Crete, Greece and Roumania. The Turks are convinced that the war will not remain localized and expect hostilities with Russia.

Serbia has authorized the formation of a legion of foreign volunteers, and Signor J. Carrazzini and Coreti, the latter an aide-de-camp to Garibaldi, are forming an Italian legion.

The fighting strength of the Serbian army now is 115,000 men and 250 guns, including one battery of Krupp's guns and 150 bronze pieces.

Russian officers and surgeons are arriving at Belgrade daily.

The *Tugshlatt* says the atrocities committed by the Bashi Bazuks in Thessaly and Epirus created such a sensation throughout Greece as to render the maintenance of neutrality difficult. A later despatch says the relations between Greece and Turkey are assuming an increasingly serious aspect.