

Lieut. Charles Wright received a letter from Capt. Joshua Wright, on Saturday, June 27th, dated 8th June, 60 miles from Fort Pitt, from which it appears that he had obtained permission from the General to go with a scouting expedition after Big Bear. One of the reminiscences was, a party of six, himself included, struck on a trail and came suddenly on a party of four Indians, and it was pretty hard to tell which was the most astonished, the Indians or themselves. However, the Indians opened fire, which salutation was quickly responded to, and resulted in the death of one Indian, the leader of the insurrection at Saddle Lake, and the wounding of another.

At the meeting of the committee appointed by the citizens interested in the erection of a monument to the two Toronto volunteers who fell at Batoche, to strike a committee for the collection of the necessary funds held last Thursday evening in the Executive Committee room at the City Hall, there were present, Mr. John Lees (in the chair), Capt. McMaster, Capt. Harman, Capt. Furnival, Ald. Steiner, Ald. Verral, Messrs. R. W. Darling, W. K. McNaught, and L. C. Cosgrave. Committees were appointed to canvass the respective wards of the city, along with the Aldermen representing the different wards. Capt. McMaster was appointed permanent Treasurer, Major Manning Chairman, and Mr. W. K. McNaught, Secretary. Capt. Harman and Mr. McNaught were appointed a committee to prepare a heading on the subscription books which will be distributed among the canvassers.

It has lately been decided to increase the already large staff of German military pigeons, of which there are at present in different fortresses about 4,000. These pigeons are taught not to alight on the dovecote, but, on their arrival at their destination, to knock against the closed wire wicket, which motion causes a leaden ball to drop, thereby opening the wicket and setting a mechanism in motion that connects with a bell in the room of the keeper. The officer then detaches the message from the tail feathers of the pigeon, the message being rolled up in the hollow quill of a pigeon's tail feather, which feathers are carefully collected for despatch purposes, as being most easily hidden among the natural feathers of the carrier bird. These quills contain, in micro-photographic reduction, about eight pages (octavo) of writing, which, by the hydro-oxygen gas microscope, are reproduced in natural size.

On the third in the Brigade Office, Montreal, a preliminary meeting was held for the purpose of devising the best means to accord a fitting reception to the volunteers upon their return from the North-West. Lieut.-Colonel Harwood, D.A.G., 6th district, occupied the chair. His Worship the Mayor, Lieut.-Col. Worsley, Lieut.-Col. Stevenson, Lieut.-Col. Bond, Lieut.-Col. Gardner, Lieut.-Col. Crawford, Lieut.-Col. Caverhill, Lieut.-Col. Kennedy, Major S. C. Stevenson and Capt. Clapman were present. A discussion took place upon the suggestion of the Major that a picnic should take place upon St. Helen's Island and also as to amount of money which the Corporation would be likely disposed to vote upon the occasion. Upon the motion of Major Stevenson, Colonels Harwood, Crawford, Bond and Gardner were appointed a deputation to wait upon the Finance Committee to confer with them as to the amount of the grant required, after which the other arrangements will be proceeded with.

Exactly ten years ago the Dutch Government commenced a war at Acheen, in the north of Sumatra, which has continued without interruption down to last month. The forces of Holland have been perpetually engaged, mostly around the town of Acheen, but occasionally elsewhere in northern Sumatra. The war has weighed down the Dutch East Indies, the national budget of which has shown an annual deficit of from nine to fifteen millions of florins, caused mainly by it. An army of about 20,000 men has had to be maintained, fighting almost under the equator, by constant drafts from Java and ultimately from home. The result of efforts of such magnitude continued over ten years has been nothing. The Acheneese are still in arms and unsubdued. By constant fighting they have been cleared out of a space of about twenty square miles around the port of Acheen. This the Dutch will continue to hold by means of redoubts and a large force. The blockade of the other ports has been raised; two of them only, Oleleb and Pedis, are to be retained by a force said to number 5,500 men. The rest of the Dutch forces are said to be withdrawn, and the war is at an end until the Su tan likes to resume his attacks on the the forts.

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