



The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada.

VOL. X.

OTTAWA, (CANADA), TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1876.

No. 21.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

At a special meeting of the New York Yacht Club, held on the evening of the 25th, the challenge of Major Gifford, of the yacht *Countess of Dufferin*, was accepted, to sail three races on the 10th, 12th, and 14th of July, for the American cup against only one yacht, to be named on or before the 1st July if either yacht be disabled time is to be given for repairs.

It is feared that there will be no improvement in the square timber market this year; and in such a case a good many lumbermen will find themselves in a critical position; owing to the destruction of improvements up the Ottawa River by the recent floods, some timber will we fear fail to get down this season to market.

The British Columbia Pacific Railway surveying parties arrived at Victoria on the 4th instant, and have proceeded to the scene of their labors. Mr. Cambie, under Mr. Smith, has charge of the surveys which comprise the parties under Messrs. Jennings, Gainsby, Hunter, Trutch and McMillan, which, with the two parties now out, will make seven divisions in the field this year. The Fraser route will be located this summer; Mr. Dawson, of the Geological Survey, will accompany Mr. Cambie through British Columbia during the coming season.

Senator Skead has accepted the position of Lumber Judge at the Centennial. Senator Christie will probably be Judge of Agriculture. The United States Commission allows Canada four judges in various departments; two more have yet to be appointed. An indemnity of one thousand dollars is set apart for each judge.

It is reported that Sir Hugh Allan will tender for the construction of the Eastern Extension Railway to the Strait of Canso, that he has bought out the Vale Colliery, and that he intends to utilize, as part of the extension, the six or seven miles of railway already in operation between New Glasgow and the colliery.

The rifle match shot at Belleville on the 25th, by teams from the 29th Rifles of Belleville, and the 48th Regiment of National Guards of Oswego, N. Y., was won by the latter. The score was as follows: Oswego, 372; Belleville, 352.

On Wednesday evening last an enthusiastic meeting was held in Philadelphia, endorsing the action of the Centennial Commissioners in keeping the Exhibition closed on the Sabbath day. This will doubtless be an incentive to the Commissioners to adhere to their determination, though there is a strong pressure in the other direction being brought to bear on them.

The Ottawa Field Battery go into Camp on the 20th of June, for their annual drill. The Garrison Artillery assemble on the evenings of Tuesday and Friday each week for drill.

His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, has been appointed by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, a Knight Grand Cross of the most distinguished order of St. Michael and St. George. The honor thus conferred upon His Excellency, is one to which he is well entitled, and which he will worthily wear.

Canada is making rapid strides in importing the finest breed of cattle to be found in England. The *Illustrated London News* states that the Hon. George Brown lately paid the Duke of Devonshire \$12,500 for the short-horn cow "Grand Duchess, of Oxford 29th." The same authority states that this is the largest sum ever paid in Europe for a cow. It shows with what spirit Canadians have entered into the business.

On the 23rd inst. the Commissioners representing Her Majesty's Colonies at the Centennial entertained at dinner the British Commissioners—Colonel Sanford and Prof. Archer—at the St. George's House, in the exhibition grounds. The Hon. Senator Penny, of the Canadian Commission, presided, and probably on no previous occasion have so many representatives of the British Colonies assembled together. The principal toasts were: The President of the United States, The Queen, The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family, The Army, Navy and Volunteer Forces, and The British Commissioners, all of which were responded to with enthusiasm. Thirty eight Colonial Commissioners were present, including Sir Redmond Barry, Victoria; Mr. S. Davenport, South Australia; Dr. Hector, C.M.G., New Zealand; Mr. Angus Mackay, Queensland; Mr. Augustus Morris, Mr. Cameron and Mr. Forbes, Australia, including New South Wales; Mr. Welsh Tasmania. The Crown Colonies were well represented.

The *Birmingham Post* says: "When the Queen was in Germany she made immense purchases of toys—so numerous, indeed, that they filled a special baggage van. It was stated at the time that they were intended for the Royal grandchildren, but Her Majesty had also in view other little children to whom such playthings would be very welcome—those who are lying sick and suffering on their little pallets at the Children's Hospital in Great Ormond street. With thoughtful kindness, Her Majesty has sent a large supply of the toys there. Queen or Empress, she never forgets that she is a woman and a mother.

A despatch from London, says the *Court Circular*, announces that the Prince of Wales is suffering from inflammation of the veins of the leg, and will be compelled to keep in the house for some days. A rumor on the Stock Exchange says this attack is more serious than the announcement indicates.

A painting of the Duchess of Devonshire, by Gainsborough, recently purchased by a firm of Bond street (London, England) picture dealers for \$52,500, was on the night of the 26th cut from the frame and stolen. A reward of \$5,000 has been offered for the apprehension of the person who stole the portrait.

The *Standard's* Vienna despatch says the preliminaries of the new armistice are already under consideration in both the Turkish and insurgent camps. The Porte has authorized Mukhtar Pasha to suspend hostilities whenever feasible.

A special despatch from Vienna to *Le Temps* reports that the Sultans require the Sultan to deposit \$26,000,000 in the public treasury, reduce the civil list to \$5,000,000, establish a National Council and appoint a European Minister of Finance. *Le Temps* reports that the Sultans have, in addition to their other demands, asked the Sultan to renounce the title of Caliph, which means his abdication of the spiritual headship of Mahomedans.

A Belgrade telegram says it is reported that 30,000 Bulgarians rose in insurrection on the 24th, from Sivno to Ihtiman, on the occasion of the feast of their patron, St. Cyril. Twelve thousand Turks were sent against them from Uissa and Widdin.

The *Courrier d'Orient* asserts that in that part of Bulgaria where the insurrection prevails, 1,8 villages, which contained 100,000 inhabitants, have been burned.

The London *Standard* of the 29th says one hundred tons of gunpowder and a million of cartridges have just been despatched from Woolwich to Gibraltar, Malta and Mediterranean fleets. This is quite independent of the ordinary supply. It was stated in Portsmouth on Saturday that all available workmen are to be placed at work on ships which are nearest to seagoing condition. The turret ship *Thunderer* is understood to be the first whose completion will be thus pushed forward.

It is reported that a superior Spanish official has been arrested in Madrid, upon a warrant from the authorities of Havana.

The Spanish Congress has passed the whole draft of the constitution by a majority of 235.

The Spanish administration in Cuba is negotiating with some English houses for a loan of fifty million pesetas at 8 per cent., guaranteed by the custom revenues of the Island.