



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The British House of Commons was prorogued on the 10th inst. A very interesting debate occurred on the conduct of Mr. Justice Keogh in denouncing the action of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Tuam and the clergy of his diocese for their action in the Galway election case; the Government approved of the course taken by the Judge and were sustained by a large majority.

It is contrary to the spirit of constitutional Government (to say nothing of Christianity) to allow clerical interference in elections, and it must be degrading to the order to see a clergyman figure as a rowdy at an election booth. The Roman Catholic priesthood have an undoubted right as the best educated men of their flocks to advise their people politically if they choose to do so, but that can be done decently in social intercourse without giving scandal.

It is rumoured that the Pope has instructed Cardinal Cullen to remonstrate with the British Government and protest against the (supposed) intention attributed to them of prosecuting the Archbishop and his clergy for undue interference with the election.

The whole of this matter will add another chapter to History and the development of true Constitutional Government.

The Queen left Windsor for Balmoral on the 14th, and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales formally opened the Portland Breakwater on the 10th.

There appears to be some likelihood of disturbance in Ireland, additional troops have been sent to Belfast and other points; the trouble is expected to arise out of a celebration of the anniversary of Catholic emancipation.

LONDON, 17th.—Further advices from Belfast confirm the serious nature of the rioting there on Thursday. There were several collisions between the mobs of Protestants and Catholic processions, during which a large number of persons received injuries of a more or less serious nature. The entire city was in an uproar of excitement and the disturbances were only quelled by the most active exertions of the police. Many of the rioters were arrested.

LATER—Despatches just received from Belfast, states that the riots have broken out afresh, and that severe fighting is now going on. A barrack of the police and several houses have been wrecked by the mob.

The *Daily News* discredited the *Standard's* report that the meeting of the Emperors of Germany, Russia and Austria at Berlin is for the purpose of settling the pending question in European national relations.

A Jesuit establishment at Issenheim in Alsace has been closed by order of the German Government.

An Edict of the Spanish Government provides for the abolition of slavery in the dominions of that country.

Nothing new has transpired respecting the Board of Arbitration at Geneva; the English lawyers were sent for to give the necessary explanations relative to the claims of the confederate cruisers, if requisite.

A project for the formation of a tunnel under the Straits of Gibraltar has been presented to the Spanish Minister of Agriculture. It is intended to run from Algeiras to Ceuta.

A French inventor recently made a public trial of boots designed to aid one to walk on the water. Nothing ever floated more beautifully than those boots did, but the trifling circumstance that they floated wrong side up nearly caused the inventor's death.

The news from the United States this week is simply local—refers to failures in the oil trade, the usual averages of three to five murders per diem in New York, and many deaths by sun stroke.

An attempted revolution in Peru ended in the death of the President and his assassin; the people elected a new President.

Advices from Magdalen Islands report mackerel scarce but codfish plenty. Very few United States vessels have arrived there to engage in the fishery.

Peace at last reigns in Cuba; Cabral has disbanded his brigands and is gone to take service with the Haytiens.

According to careful estimates, which are deemed reliable, one-third of the wood and timber existing in California twenty-two years ago has been consumed.

The Mikado of Japan is making a tour of his dominions as well as of its shrines; he is about to change its official religion, if its cultus can be called by that name,—he has assumed European costume, much to the wonder of his people, and takes care to be attended by a large naval and military force. The Koreans are reported to have set his authority at defiance, and we may be prepared to hear of some warm work between those parties. He has for a long time been Suzerain of Corea and with a newly organized force at his command will have a wish to test its value.

The elections in the Dominion are not yet concluded; with the exception of Quebec there have been no riots or undue excitement.

The Tilt Cove copper mines of Newfoundland has been sold for £150,000 sterling. The mineral wealth of British North America is enormous.

The new tariff on Canadian lumber in the United States has had the effect of raising its value over \$2 per thousand feet, board measure. It is evident that those people pay the duty imposed on foreign or other material, and we have no cause to complain.

Appearances are in favor of an abundant harvest, and all interests in the Dominion seem to be in a prosperous state.

A Fort Garry despatch to the *Globe* dated August, 8th says that: Adjt.-General Ross and staff started for British Columbia the day previous, overland. The ravages of grass hoppers this year will be restricted to gardens, and to a few late crops. There are hopeful indications of their departure before the egg-depositing season. Harvesting operations are going on vigorously, the crops are amazingly large. Election matters were quiet.

Work on the great tunnel, under the Detroit River is progressing rapidly, notwithstanding the fears that were for some time entertained as to the practicability of the gigantic undertaking. On the West side the workmen are out over nine hundred feet from shore, working through stiff blue clay, and finding little stone. On the Canada side work is pushed out over three hundred feet. When such rapid progress has been made within the comparatively short time since the actual work of excavation was commenced, we may look forward with some confidence to seeing the tunnel opened for traffic before the close of 1873.