

keep them in condition for *watering drill* and that Royal Artillery practice will not suit Canada in this particular. While on this subject a case of great hardship has come under our notice. The Ottawa Field Battery of Artillery, the most effective in the Dominion, went to Prescott in September to put in their annual drill; the guns are horsed by the drivers; one of them, a Volunteer of some fifteen years standing, Joseph Baskerville, of Gloucester, had one of his horses so badly injured that it was subsequently obliged to be shot; all the necessary formula was gone through, a board of officers found the animal was injured on service some six weeks ago, and that the Government should pay for it, but he has not yet received his money, and has suffered considerable loss by the transaction. Now, common justice would ask why should not the loss of the services of this horse be made good to this man since September? Do the people of Canada suppose that individuals will sacrifice themselves and their property for the good of the state or is it only a delusion their leaders labor under? Here is a clear case of injustice and one that must be remedied. We can tell more of this Individual Volunteer from our own knowledge. During the first Fenian raid in 1866 we were engaged in organizing a battery of Garrison Artillery in his neighborhood; a meeting of the members for drill was to be held at his house; on arriving there we found that he had risen out of a sick bed, took his horses from the plough and left for the front, the only occupants of his house being his wife and four children the eldest about seven years old. There was very little drill that night but a good deal of wood chopping and other farm work done by the battery and his crops were put in next day; but men like him should not be treated with a niggard hand nor their just claims left in abeyance for any pitiful plea of economy. To deprive him of the value of one day's work of his horse is not only mean but it is positively dishonest, and the country must look to it that no nonsense of the kind is permitted. A gallant and efficient army is organized in Canada and its existence must not be imperilled by any false notions of economy. The whole question of the manner in which our Volunteers are treated should occupy more of the attention of the press of the Dominion than is accorded to it. Luckily those cases are not of frequent occurrence, but the evil exists and must be remedied.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The health of the Queen still continues to improve. Public opinion in England, as far as its press represents it, has become so debauched that it has compelled the Rev. Dr. Macleod, D.D., her Scotch chaplain, to declare through the press that there is no foundation for the report of her late malady affecting her intellect, while a low fanatic

named Grebble, the Secretary of the Brixham Total Abstinence Society, has had the consummate impudence to declare in public that she indulged in habitual intoxication. Happily the manhood of England is not represented by its press and the local authorities are very likely to make such scoundrels as Grebble regret breaking the ninth commandment. It is a pity the "cat o' nine tails" was abolished in punishing crimes of this description. One or two low scoundrels tried to achieve an infamous notoriety by attempting her life shortly after she ascended the throne. A few miserable scoundrels, high and low, try to achieve the same pinnacle of infamy by traducing her now in the decline of life.

There has been a severe storm attended with considerable loss of life and shipping on the British coast.

A meeting of Liberals is to be held in London next week, at which the English Count Smorltork, Sir Charles Dilke, is to figure as the principal speaker.

The Tichborne trial has been resumed, and so far everything appears in favor of the claimant.

The "French Republic" exercises its functions as an apostle of liberty by suppressing newspapers in the cause of law and order. Republicans must be an awfully debased lot when even their own cherished form of government must use restrictive measures to keep them quiet.

There is or will be an ordinance issued exiling the Imperial family from France and rendering them ineligible for any public employment, but such measures merely show that present rulers know their danger.

The renowned fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, opposite Coblenz on the Rhine, has had a narrow escape from destruction by the explosion of a service magazine; three soldiers were killed and many wounded; luckily the grand magazine, where a store of ammunition for a ten years siege has been deposited, escaped.

A very grave crisis has arisen in Spanish affairs; the Cortes voted its sittings permanent and were instantly prorogued by a Royal decree. The King summoned the Presidents of both houses to consult on this serious *contre temps*. As the act is unconstitutional severe repressive measures should be resorted to; a few wholesome examples would do a great deal to bring those revolutionary gentry to their senses.

The Pope has announced his intention of leaving Rome on the first occasion of the meeting of the Italian Parliament in that city.

The people of the United States have their toadying propensities gratified by the arrival in New York harbor of the Russian frigate *Secland* having on board the Grand Duke Alexis, on a visit to the States. The New York *Herald* says it is to form an alliance, offensive and defensive, in the event of possible European complications, and with "eventualities," as that journal would

say, looking to operations in Asia, in which the Yankees are to assist with a fleet of privateers, similar in character, we suppose, to the *blockaders* of the late war and to those active vessels who followed the *Alabama* but did not catch her. This is pretty well for people that have nothing afloat but a set of old tubs not able under full steam to achieve three knots an hour and two of those would be to leeward. By all means complete the alliance. The United States navy is more dangerous to their friends than to their enemies, and if the Yankee rooster and the Russian bear mutually strangle each other humanity would be the gainer.

Ben Butler of the "spoons" and other prominent heroes of like stamp are at New York awaiting the advent of royalty.

The usual amount of murders and robberies grace the annals of the great Republic both being rather below the average for one week.

The Commissioners under the Washington Treaty have received about 500 claims from British subjects, none as yet from citizens of the United States.

The tribunal of arbitration on the *Alabama* claims is to assemble at Geneva on 15th December. Lord Tenterden, the chief Secretary of the High Joint Commission, has been appointed agent for the British Government thereat.

Mexico is again in a state of revolution. Anarchy and confusion appears to be the normal condition of that unhappy country, while the plotters at Washington are debating on what portion of it they shall annex.

The reinforcement for the garrison at Fort Garry arrived there on the 15th having done the distance between Thunder Bay and that point in twenty-three days. On the same day telegraphic communication was opened between Ottawa and Fort Garry by a message from Lieut.-Governor Archibald to the Governor-General.

The census of Canada, exclusive of the North West and British Columbia, amounts to 3,484,924 souls.

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