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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Hon. Mr. Vail, Minister of Militia and Defence, left town on Friday evening for Nova Scotia. He will be absent only for a short time.

On Friday last the Hon. Mr. Scott, Secretary of State of Canada, received a telegraph despatch from the Lieut. Governor of British Columbia, the Hon. Mr. Trutch, stating that Major General Smyth and party had arrived at Victoria on the 21st of October. They reported pleasant weather during the entire trip; visited all the mounted police posts on the way, and reached Victoria in three months after leaving Fort Garry. At Walla General Howard and the officers of the U. S. Army entertained General Smyth and party at a ball. At Portland the visitors were treated with great courtesy by the citizens. At Fort Vancouver, as the steamboat with the Major General came down Columbia River, a royal salute was fired in honor of the distinguished visitor. The party landed and were received by the officers of the garrison with the customary honors. They embarked on the 30th for San Francisco, and left that city on the 5th inst. on their return to Ottawa. The General and party are reported to be in good health, and much pleased with the results of their trip across the continent.

We understand that Major General Selby Smyth and Captain the Hon. Miles Stapleton, A.D.C., who have been absent for the past four months on a tour of inspection to Manitoba and British Columbia, are expected to arrive here this afternoon.

We have the gratifying intelligence of the safe arrival of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, at Bombay on the 8th inst., after a very pleasant and prosperous voyage. On his landing from the *Serapis*, he was received by General Lord Napier, of Magdala; Sir Philip E. Woodhouse, Governor of Bombay; Hon. Sir M. R. Westropp, Chief Justice, and many others, including civil, military and municipal authorities, accompanied by seventy native princes and chiefs, who had also come to welcome the Prince of Wales to India. After leaving the royal barge at the dockyard the municipality of Bombay presented him with an appropriate address of welcome. The Prince replied briefly, after which he and his suite were escorted to the Government House. The troops and police preserved perfect order while the long procession moved through the streets. Over 200,000 spectators lined the route. The reception was of the most enthusiastic description, and was participated in alike by the European and natives. The city was splendidly decorated throughout, no fewer

than eight triumphal arches having been erected on the line of march. The apartments to be occupied by His Royal Highness during his stay in Bombay are most pleasantly situated rooms in the Government House. A grand levee was held in the evening. It is expected that while here the Prince will present colors to the 21st, the native infantry, better known as the Marine battalion, the oldest corps in Bombay, having been raised a century ago. He will also review the troops and accept the hospitality of the Freemasons of the city. The British flying squadron is anchored in the harbor, and will remain during the stay of the Prince.

From the Pacific coast we have the melancholy intelligence of the loss of the steamship *Pacific*, with all on board with the exception of one man named Jelly who was picked off the pilot house by the Captain of the *Messenger* 20 miles south of Cape Flattery. There were two hundred and fifty souls on board when the ship foundered.

A later despatch says that the steamer *Oliver Walcott*, picked up another of the *Pacific's* crew on a raft thirty miles inside the Straits of Fuca. He says Captain Howell was drowned from the same raft, and that the *Pacific* was struck by a vessel under full sale. This is confirmed by the *Gussie Telfair*, who reports having seen a vessel in distress outside the Cape with her flag union down and bowsprit gone, which no doubt was the vessel colliding with the *Pacific* steamer.

From Galveston, we learn of another fearful disaster and loss of life. The steamship *Waco* was struck by lightning in the Gulf on the 9th, and all hands are supposed to be lost. Hopes, however, were entertained that some of the *Waco's* people were saved by the *Australian*, which was lying at the mouth of San Bernard River.

A Toronto telegram of the 6th says: "The propellor Queen of the North, is reported to have been lost on Lake Erie two nights ago. She was owned by Henry Jackman, belonged to this port, was valued at \$10,000, and insured about eight o'clock this evening."

A British Columbia newspaper states that a railway surveying party, while at Gardener's Inlet, came across large tracts of the real Scotch heather.

Twenty-eight cars, laden with the hull of a new iron ship for the Pacific Ocean, passed through Harrisburg, Pa., during last week for California, via Pennsylvania and Union Pacific Railway. Forty car loads are to follow, the hull was in sections, and was manufactured in Roach's yard, at Chester.

An Indian canoe that will hold 100 men is to be sent to the centennial from British Columbia. It is sixty feet long, eight wide and four high.

A telegram from Singapore, Nov. 8th, says: "Colonel Clarke, Governor of the Straits Settlement, will go to Serak today. Intelligence received here from Penang announces that the Malayans are besieging the British Residency at Perak. All the native rajahs are suspected of complicity in the murder of the late Resident, Mr. Bierch. It is reported that the Malayans are preparing for resistance. Sultan Ismail is collecting a considerable force for the purpose of attempting to expel the British from the country."

One-third of the vessels of the Italian navy are offered for sale at auction. Their original cost was ten millions of dollars; the price now asked for the whole lot is only one million. Dealers in firewood and old iron are afforded an excellent opportunity.

A cable telegram of the 8th inst., says: The *Morning Standard's* special from Vienna states that thirty-six thousand Servian militia are assembled at the frontier. The Servian Government has sent agents to Paris and London to raise a loan.

The *Times* publishes a special from Alexandria which says the Khedive has applied officially to England for two financiers to undertake Egyptian finances, promising fullest information to the Great Powers.

The Turkish Ambassador in Vienna has been summoned to Constantinople to assume the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. He is in favor of the reforms recommended by Russia, Austria and North Germany.

The weather in England and France during the past fortnight has been very stormy. Heavy and almost incessant rains have fallen, and many parts of both countries are flooded. Vast tracts are threatened by rivers.

The brig *Centaur* from Greytown, reports October 2nd, lat. 18-27 long. 85-22, picked up a man in a boat belonging to the bark *Toronto*, of Glasgow, which was wrecked near Nevassa, when and under what circumstances cannot be learned. The man is a Spanish negro and very ignorant. It seems the entire crew abandoned the ship in the same boat and all perished except this man, who was insensible from exhaustion and exposure when found.

The Grand Vizier is seriously ill, and the present political state of affairs causes uneasiness in Bulgaria.

The *Golos*, newspaper says of a recent article in the *Gazette* that it confirms the peaceful sentiments and the universal agreement of the Great Powers on the Turkish question.

Servia has withdrawn her troops from the frontier, and countermanded the order to the militia to proceed thither, on account of the withdrawal of the Turkish troops.