



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,) THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1876.

No 20.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It will be seen by the following telegraphic news from Turkey, that the state of affairs in that unhappy country are become very alarming—and a religious war most imminent—both parties are arming for the coming conflict. The Sultan is said to be completely powerless—and unless the Moham-madens are over awed by the combined force of the European navies now collecting in Turkish waters—one of the bloodiest wars that has occurred in Europe since the days of the Crusaders, will ensue.

The *Standard's* Vienna despatch says a panic prevails among Christians in Kustchuk, and the Consuls have sent their families across the Danube. The Porte has refused to allow a Greek man of war to pass the Dardanelles, declaring that the powers which signed the treaty of Paris are alone entitled to station vessels of war in Golden Horn.

London May 18.—The Russian telegraph agency has received a special communication stating that the population of Constantinople is still discontented, and considers the changes made in the Government not sufficiently radical. The panic among the Europeans is consequently much increased, and foreign representatives are taking every precaution.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, former Ambassador of Great Britain at Constantinople, writes to the *Times* recommending a scheme for a convention between the Sultan and the guaranteeing Powers for the establishment of religious equality, the proper administration of justice, and the participation of Christians in the administration of public affairs throughout Turkey, the execution of the reforms to be entrusted to a mixed commission, the members of which shall be responsible to their respective Governments.

A letter to the *Times* from Pera, a suburb of Constantinople, dated the 11th, says the excitement caused by the Salonica affair has not abated. A party of Softas yesterday paraded the streets of Stamboul, crying "Down with the Grand Vizer." The dedication of the new English church, which had been arranged for, has been indefinitely postponed, at the request of Right Hon. H. G. Elliott, British Ambassador, who had consulted the Minister of Police on the possible consequence of the ceremony. The Softas have been dissatisfied with the Government since January, and the acceptance of Count Andrassy's note, which evinced a disposition to place all religious denomina-

tions on an equal footing. The first alarm felt here was occasioned by a well founded report that the Softas and Mussulman roughs, who are ruled by them, were buying revolvers, daggers and other weapons. The Christians have resolved to take similar precautions. There is no doubt, meanwhile, that all our speculations on the peril that threatens us, and of the various means by which we may attempt to avoid it, contribute largely to foster and increase our uneasiness, and become in themselves our greatest and most real danger.

London, May 18.—A despatch to the Reuter Telegram Company from Berlin says the resolutions of the Imperial Chancellors' Conference have been submitted to the Powers. They provide for an eight weeks armistice, and for assistance in the restoration to their homes of refugees and insurgents. The Consuls resident in the various districts, assisted by special delegates, are to overlook the execution of the agreement. In all other respects the original text of Count Andrassy's note has been adhered to.

In the House of Commons, the Right Hon. George Ward Hunt stated that the British flotilla in the Mediterranean had been ordered to Salonica, and a gunboat to Constantinople.

Mobs of Softas have been parading the streets during the last three days, demanding the dismissal of Mahomed Nedim Pasha, whom they accuse of being under Russian influence. Threats have been made against Christian generally, and two or three murders have occurred, which the police are doing their utmost to hush up.

Constantinople, May 18. Several additional French and Austrian men-of-war have arrived in the Bosphorus.

A Washington despatch says Lord Derby's reply to Secretary Fish's note on the Winslow case was received on Wednesday, the 17th inst., and that its effect is to defer the issue which Fish has raised of the failure on the part of Great Britain to comply with the terms of the Extradition Treaty. The note is long, and firm in tone, and does not yield to the position taken by Fish in the slightest degree. The ground is assumed that the English law of 1870 has nothing necessarily to do with the case in dispute.

Mr. Henry J. Morgan of Ottawa, has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Colonial Institute of London.

The trade of Manitoba seems to be increasing with unabated rapidity. The opening of spring has given it a fresh impetus, and it is stated that the Northern Pacific Railway is compelled to run extra trains to meet the demands of Manitoba freights.

The Prime Minister of Newfoundland, Mr. Carter, has gone to England, to confer with the British Government on the encroachment of the French on the Fisheries of Newfoundland.

Mr. Z. Lash, the newly appointed Deputy Minister of Justice, has arrived in Ottawa, and entered upon the discharge of his duties. Judge Dean, of Lindsay, who has been assisting the Minister of Justice for some time, has left for home.

The Royal Zoological Society have forwarded to Lieutenant Cameron an official letter of thanks for the animals which he brought home from Africa. Nine of these form the gift of Mr. Cameron, but the explorer has also conveyed to England a Mirabou stork, the largest bird of the adjutant species yet imported, and two very rare birds known as colies, which have been presented to the gardens by Mr. Amzilak and Mr. H. C. Tait, of Zandoo.

It is stated that it is the intention of the War Office to convert one of the infantry militia regiments into a militia regiment of engineers, and that during the coming season the regiment will be under canvass at Chatham, for a course of instruction in military engineering, under the direction of the Royal Engineers at the School of Military Engineering. One of the Volunteer Engineer Corps will also go under canvass at Chatham for a term, for a course of instruction.

Another hero of the great war (the *Army and Navy Gazette* says) died lately at Christchurch—we allude to Admiral Vernon Jackson—at the age of eighty nine years, who, we believe, was the original of Marryat's capital character of O'Brien in "Peter Simple." Admiral Jackson was the type of a British seaman. The story of his escape from different French prisons and his wanderings through the country is most interesting.

The Volunteer Review at Tring, on Easter Monday, was witnessed by many thousands of persons from the neighboring towns and from London. About 7,000 volunteers of all ranks were present, including the local corps and a strong battalion from Manchester. Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar was in supreme command, and the divisional leaders were Colonels Percy Fielding and Lord Abinger. The sham fight consisted only of simple manoeuvres which are described as having become confused at the end. The volunteers were conveyed to their various destinations in good time and without casualties of any kind. The sham fight and review upon the heights of Dover were witnessed by about 20,000 spectators.

Dr. Isaac Butt and Mr. O'Connor, yesterday forwarded to Mr. Disraeli, a declaration signed by 138 members of Parliament in favor of the release of the Fenian convicts.