



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Thursday last was set apart by Proclamation of the Lieut. Governor of Ontario, as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest He has vouchsafed the people of this Dominion—and we are happy to learn that it was very unanimously observed by all religious denominations throughout the Province.

The following is the Corporation address of welcome to His Excellency the Governor General on his return to the capital:—

“**MAX IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—** The Corporation of the city of Ottawa respectfully approach Your Excellency, and in the name of their fellow-citizens tender you a hearty welcome on this your return to the capital. Your Excellency's safe arrival is a matter of sincere gratification, not only to the citizens of Ottawa, but to the whole people of the Dominion, to whom you have become endeared through your personal affability, and the lively interest you have at all times manifested in the advancement of their welfare. The words of practical testimony and encouragement spoken by Your Excellency of our young country and its resources during your stay in Great Britain and Ireland, have been freely discussed by the people of Canada, and have confirmed the high opinion entertained of the ability with which at all times Your Excellency comprehends the great extent and the varied resources of the Dominion as well the loyalty and devotion of its entire population to the rule of their beloved sovereign. The Countess of Dufferin, whose efforts to aid your Excellency in fostering the good will and promoting the interests of the Canadian people, we fully recognize and appreciate, we also tender a cordial welcome home. In conclusion we avail ourselves of this opportunity to express the hope that for many years Your Excellency may continue to represent in Canada, our Gracious Queen, and to guide the political destinies of our young and rapidly developing country with that forethought and moderation which have characterised your counsels, and which are so eminently calculated to build up our wealth and power and contribute to our happiness and prosperity.”

To which His Excellency replied as follows:—

“**MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN:—** It gave me great pleasure to receive the address which you presented to me on the occasion of my return to Ottawa, after an absence in England of seven months duration. Although it would be untrue to assert that I

have not derived both pleasure and advantage from my visit to the old country, and from the opportunities it afforded me of entering into personal communication with Her Majesty's present Government, I can affectedly say that in returning to your Capital, the kindness and cordiality of your reception, and the unflinching good will evinced by the people of Canada towards Lady Dufferin and myself, have made us feel that we are coming back to a most happy and pleasant home. You have been good enough to allude in flattering terms to the few observations which on one or two occasions I have had the opportunity of making before an English audience respecting Canada. However unimportant and casual these observations may have been in themselves, the unexpected attention they received in the mother country, is an additional proof—if proof were needed—of the growing interest your fellow citizens across the Atlantic take in all that you are doing here. In this respect a very remarkable change is to be observed during the past few years; in fact, the admirable success which has attended the consolidation of the North American Provinces into a great Dominion, the rapidity with which you are developing your resources, extending your trade, and multiplying your fleets; the energetic manner in which Canada is asserting her title, as a self-governing community, to the respect and observance of her friends and neighbours, has evoked in a most satisfactory manner the pride, and stimulated the sympathies of those who have the right to regard you as one with them, selves, as identified with their future destinies, and as associated with them in the glorious task of enlarging the confines, maintaining the dignity and enhancing the prestige of the British Empire. I only trust that during the subsequent portion of my Viceregalty, the experience I have acquired of Canadian affairs, and my more intimate knowledge and appreciation of the abilities and qualities of your public men, may enable me to discharge more effectually than I have hitherto been able to do the responsible duties attaching to my high office.”

Colonel Wily, Director of Military Stores, has had the guns of the dismantled Fort Wellington at Prescott, removed to a battery erected in rear of the Parliament buildings, on the bluff facing the Ottawa River, which will completely command it, so that no fears may ever be entertained from an enemy in that direction.

The Kingston *Whigs* says “it is stated that only two candidates from each military district will be admitted at the start into the new Military College, the present accommodation being insufficient for more than that

number. Candidates for admission to the College, beside the statutory qualification of age, will have to pass an examination on suitable subjects, of which due notice will be given in public prints. Beside scholastic requirements it will be necessary that candidates are physically qualified for a military cadetship.”

The charter of the Montreal, Ottawa, and Western Railway has been transferred to the Quebec Government, who have made a new contract with Mr. A. P. Macdonald to finish the road at \$25,000 per mile, which is \$5,000 less than the contract made by the late contractors of the road.

On Sunday night, the 21th ult., the dry goods house of Henry Morgan & Co., Montreal, was entered by burglars, and about \$15,000 worth of black silk laces stolen. The entrance was effected from the rear, the burglars breaking a hole through a side wall about two feet square. This house is in the heart of the city and it does not speak well for the vigilance of the police, that such a daring robbery could take place, and the robbers go undetected.

A remarkable instance of presence of mind on the part of the captain of a man-of-war is related by the *St Petersburg* papers. About the end of the past month the Russian war frigate *Olaf*, which accompanied the yacht of the Czarewitch to Copenhagen, was lying at anchor among hundreds of other ships in the harbor when a fire was discovered in a coal cellar below, which was only a few feet from the powder magazine. There was no time to put out the fire before it could reach the magazine, and an explosion of the large stores of cartridges and gunpowder contained in it would probably not only destroyed the *Olaf* and the surrounding ships, but part of Copenhagen itself. Captain Ruebinder the commander of the *Olaf*, saw at once that the only thing to be done to prevent a catastrophe was to sink the ship. After sending away the crew with the ship's papers, cash boxes and most valuable instruments in boats, he ordered the carpenters and engineers to make a leak in the vessel, and half an hour afterwards she sunk into not very deep water. Next day she was raised again, and after some provisional repairs she was taken to Cronstadt, where she is now in dock pending her complete restoration for service. The damage done is said to be comparatively trifling, and the court-martial held on the officers of the vessel unanimously expressed the highest praise of the captain and his subordinate. The Emperor has appointed him his aide-de-camp which is one of the highest honours conferred on Russian naval officers, and men under him have received gratuities from the Emperor's privy purse.