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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We believe it is the intention of the Canadian Government to send a Commissioner to Sidney Exhibition, Australia, which takes place next April. Samples of Canadian products will be placed under the control of the Commissioner.

Colonel French, late Commandant of the North West Mounted Police, was presented with a gold watch and complimentary address by the members of the Force on his leaving Swan River.

The *Montreal Herald* says:—"The Hon. Mr. Blake's recent visit to England will be acknowledged as one of the most important visits ever paid by a Colonial Minister to the Mother Country. Among other good works accomplished, owing in a great measure to his representations, is that the British and United States Governments have decided to maintain the action of the existing Extradition Treaty until the new one can be framed."

The *Manitoba Free Press* says:—"One of the North West Mounted Police in from the West informs us that recently there were about four hundred American Sioux lodges on Canadian soil, near Fort McLeod. Word was sent to the Fort that members of the Force in uniform would not be molested when away from quarters, but that if they appeared in civilian's dress the Chief would not be responsible for anything that might happen there. This is about as good a specimen of cheek and impudence as can be found even in the midst of civilization."

We are glad to learn that a great demand for good square timber, deals, &c., has set in in the Quebec market. On Friday the price of square timber showed a considerable advance. We understand that Mr. Alexander Fraser, of Westmeath, sold some splendid white pine at 25c., and received an offer for five or six rafts of same quality of timber at from 20c. to 24c., which he has yet unsold. The demand for good sawn lumber is also very satisfactory. The American buyers are on the alert to pick up good qualities. This is rather cheering after the dull spell, and bespeaks better times for our lumber merchants and for Ottawa.

We regret to learn that many of the Indians of British Columbia are dying of small pox.—The Government has commenced the building of the dock at Esquimalt.—There are 5% more voters on the Nanaimo voters' list this year than there were last year.—The surveying parties this side the Rocky Mountains draw their supplies from Nanaimo.—The *Astorian* reports that a line of steamers will shortly run from the coal mines of British Columbia to San Francisco, calling at Astoria on the way.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says it is not true that Colonel Valentine Baker has joined the Turkish army, nor is it at all likely that he will be called upon to organize the Turkish cavalry.

Another Sultan has been ignominiously hustled off the throne of Turkey. Murad tumbled off through sheer imbecility. Now it is Hamed who has to do the bidding of a Ministry responsible to neither Sultan nor people, and which individually sells themselves to the diplomats of the various powers represented at the Porte.

A correspondent writing from Belgrade says that the Servian army is being rapidly reinforced and reorganized by Russians, who are crossing Roumania and Hungary in large numbers, and that since this influx the Servians have fought better, and seem more likely to hold their ground against the Turks. The extent of the advantage gained is only to be judged by the reflux of influence upon the political situation at Belgrade. A week ago to-day Prince Milan invited the mediation of the Powers in the most formal manner for Servia and Montenegro jointly, and this step was taken in opposition to Gen. Tchernayeff's wishes, and in face of his protests and arguments. It has been daily becoming more and more apparent that the Prince's action is regretted, at least by those in control of the Servian Government, and notwithstanding that the Powers have notified Prince Milan of their acceptance of the task of bringing about peace negotiations, there is evidence that Servia will obstruct or evade them if possible, unless some new military disaster produces a revolution of feeling. Tchernayeff's memorandum against peace was yesterday officially published by the Servian Press Bureau. It throws no additional light on the situation, and its most striking features are the official representation of the arguments that Servia has nothing to lose by the war, since the European Powers will never allow the Porte to deprive her of her present political administrative rights, and the expression of the belief that Russia will soon be forced to enter the contest if it is prolonged.

It is stated that the pacific tendencies of Prince Milan are being overcome by the representations of the war party. It is reported that Prince Gortschakoff has formally demanded that any mediation undertaken shall extend to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A despatch from Pesth says: The passage of Russian officers through Hungary is becoming a source of irritation, and several parties have been arrested and imprisoned. To-day we have an account of a party of sixty-eight, provided with passports, and travelling under the protection of the Gene-

va Cross, being detained by order of the Hungarian Home Ministry; but Baron Hofmann, acting for Count Andrassy during his absence, has decided that they be allowed to proceed, and that similar travellers from Russia be permitted to pass unmolested. In the meantime the peace negotiations, which have been committed to the ambassador at Constantinople, seem not to be making satisfactory progress.

A Reuter's telegram states that at a council of the Turkish cabinet on Wednesday, it was determined to postpone any decision regarding the suspension of hostilities, until the wishes of the Powers concerning the terms of peace, were more fully ascertained. This indicates that the Powers themselves have not arrived at an agreement regarding the basis of negotiations, and tends to confirm the statement that Russia desires to include Herzegovina and Bosnian affairs in the settlement upon the basis of the Berlin memorandum. If this demand meets considerable support from other Powers, negotiations will be rendered extremely difficult in consequence of England's former rejection of the Berlin proposal. The feeling that the present situation is dangerously uncertain begins to be reflected by the prices of international stocks upon the London and Continental Exchange.

A Reuter telegram from Semlin, reports that the battle of Friday, on the left bank of the Morava, resulted disastrously to the Servians. The Turks, after breaking the right wing of the Servians, made a flank movement in the direction of Kurzat, their object being to reach Delegrade. The Turks have thus turned the Servian position at Alexinat, and the entire military position is changed.

The Turks have already reached the heights of Gurgusavat, half way between Teschitz and Kruzvat. They are advancing along the road which skirts the left bank of the Morava, crosses the river at Proskcovatz and joins the road between Alexinat and Belgrade and Jabakovitz, a short distance from Deligrad. General Tchernayeff is now marching with the bulk of the army toward Houzvat. He has telegraphed to Belgrade for reinforcements, and the Servian Minister of war has ordered General Antioch to march to Kruzvat with 12,000 men.

The *Times*' Belgrade correspondent says: The first of September will be a memorable day in the annals of Turkey and Servia, for one has gained a great victory, and the other suffered a serious defeat. Friday's battle was the battle of the war. Prince Milan leaves Belgrade on Thursday, to rejoin the army.