



# The Volunteer Review

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### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We regret to learn of the death of two esteemed Roman Catholic Clergymen, who met their death by the burning of the Hotel of Mr. Lajeunesse, Sault du Recollet, on Saturday night, 4th inst., between 9 and 10 o'clock. The names of the unfortunate gentleman are Rev. James Murphy, the talented orator and editor of *True Witness*, and the Rev. Father Lynch, a young clergyman from St. Johns, Newfoundland, on a visit to the city of Montreal and en route to Hartford, Conn., when he was invited to be present at the consecration of a Bishop. The Rev. Gentleman had left Montreal that afternoon on a visit to the Cure of Ste. Therese, intending to return to the city on Monday in time for the Rev. Father Murphy to deliver his lecture on "John Philpott Curran" in the Mechanics Hall, in the evening. The real cause of the fire is not clearly stated but doubtless it proceeded from carelessness.

The Halifax Reporter says the Military School in that city opened with 75 students the full complement. Of 42 who presented themselves for admission yesterday at the preliminary examination 37 were accepted. Two of the successful candidates have to wait for vacancies.

The several benevolent societies of Toronto are considering the most efficient means to be adopted for the relief of the poor in that city during the winter. Similar steps ought to be taken to relieve the poor of Ottawa.

Hon Joseph E. Cauchon, was sworn in a member of the Cabinet and President of the Council, on Tuesday last. The Hon. Gentleman immediately left for Quebec, to prepare for his re-election.

It is a singular fact, says the N. Y. Herald, that the four great Canadian Banks—the Bank of Montreal, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the Ontario Bank and the Merchants' Bank—are the four largest corporations selling exchange in this city. The bills command the highest figure.

Lord Dufferin has consented to become a patron of the Dominion Artillery Association, and has offered a handsome gold medal for competition at artillery practice.

The Bonapartists in the French National Assembly are endeavoring to effect a coalition with the Republicans, for the purpose of bringing about the overthrow of the Government of the Septemate.

The designs for the Royal Albert bridge, to cross the St. Lawrence via St. Helen's Island, are nearly completed, and a charter is to be applied for during the coming session of the Dominion Parliament. The enterprise is to be an international one, to cost \$4,000,000, and to be completed in three years.

A London despatch estimates the number of lives lost by the recent colliery explosion at 150; at first it was thought the number exceeded 200.

The Pekin Government has appointed Ambassadors to Japan, Peru and the United States.

The London Times gives prominence to an announcement that Col. Stokes, commandant of the School of Military Engineering has been appointed to accompany the Right Hon. Mr. Cave to Egypt. Several other important officials are also attached to the mission.

A special from Berlin says it is considered probable in St. Petersburg that Russia will propose an international conference on the Suez Canal question, and if her demand is refused will claim freedom of action in the east.

The Vienna despatch to the London Daily News says snow has fallen in such quantities as to interrupt communication between Italy and Hungary.

The German Government has formally summoned the Archbishop of Cologne to resign. This is preliminary to legal proceedings to depose him.

The great astronomer of Paris, Leverrier, who discovered the planet Neptune, which could eat up this little earth of ours and not suffer from indigestion in consequence, has made a prediction which is noteworthy. It is that the winter of 1875 76 will be uncommonly severe. Enormous quantities of snow are to fall in December and January.

The vessels ordered from the East Indies to the Mediterranean compose the detached squadron under command of Rear Admiral Lambert, which, according to previous arrangements, was to have remained in the East India water until next March. The combined crews number over 3,000 men. On the receipt of new orders the squadron will sail for the Red Sea and proceed through the Suez Canal to the Mediterranean. This will be the first time that the whole squadron belonging to a foreign power has passed at once through the canal.

The opinion prevails in Madrid, that there is no immediate probability of intervention in the affairs of Cuba by the United States, as the sentiments expressed by President Grant in his Message are no more alarming than his previous utterance on the same subject.

Great Britain appears to be girding up her loins to be ready for any emergency which may arise out of the Eastern question. The Mediterranean squadron has been strengthened, and the vessels stationed at Malta have been ordered to cruise in the Adriatic. Diplomacy of late years, especially since the seizure of Danish territory by Prussia, has been so uncertain that the British are apparently unwilling to be caught napping on the present ominous occasion.

An English aeronaut lately tested a machine of his own patent called the parakite. It is 30 feet high and 30 feet wide. As soon as the sail was fixed over the framework and the front or windward point of the parakite raised, so as to allow the wind to touch the machine on its under surface, it was instantly converted into a concave form and showed symptoms of rising. The wind was blowing at the rate of not more than two miles an hour, but with this slight breeze the aeronaut was carried into the air. The idea is to put it to practical utility for war purposes, engineering, and signalling, where it is necessary to attain lofty elevations. The machine covers an area of 700 superficial feet, and its entire weight is 100 pounds. The inventor asserts that it can be used successfully in any wind, ranging between four and forty miles an hour, and an altitude of from 600 to 1,000 feet can be attained.

Africa annually consumes 100,000 bottles of champagne; Spain, 300,000; Belgium, 500,000; Italy, 500,000; Holland, 600,000; Germany, 1,500,000; England, 5,000,000; Russia, 2,000,000; France, 2,000,000; and North America, 10,000,000.

Balloting for life Senators commenced on the 9th in the French Assembly; it is said the Left manifested a surprising degree of strength, their candidates receiving a larger number of votes than is usually cast for those of the Right.

The London Times censures the conduct of the authorities at Harwich, for sending assistance to the *Deutschland*, when they became aware of her critical condition; the commander of the vessel is also blamed for not launching boats at the proper time. The London Board of Trade has decided to institute an inquiry into the cause of the disaster.

The leading papers of Madrid entertain strong hopes that Spain will be able to suppress the rebellion in Cuba by force, energy and perseverance.

The British Parliament is to assemble on the 8th of January next, for the consideration and despatch of importance business.

The entire strength of the Carlist army in Spain, is estimated at 52,000 men, with 1,000 guns.