

Jackson, Major Whyte, Major Le Lievre Major Wicksteed, Captain Sparks, Captain Crombie, Adjutant Walsh, and Surgeon Mallooh.

His Excellency being seated on the Throne the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was sent to the Commons Chamber to command the attendance of that body, and on their arrival at the bar of the Senate Chamber, His Excellency delivered the following Speech:—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate; Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

I have much satisfaction in meeting you at this early and convenient season.

I have to congratulate you upon the organization of the North West Police Force, and the success of its operations. It has materially aided in the creation of confidence and good will among the Indian tribes; in the suppression of the liquor traffic; the establishment of legitimate duties; and, above all, in maintaining security for life and property within the Territory. Another effect of the presence of the Police in the North West has been to enable the Government to largely reduce the strength of the Military establishment in that country.

The negotiation of a friendly Treaty with the Crees and Sautaux of the North West for the cession of territory may be regarded as a further guarantee for the continuation of amicable relations with the Indian tribes of that vast region.

During the past summer I had the pleasure and advantage of visiting a very large portion of the Province of Ontario, including the whole coast of Georgian Bay and Lake Superior. This official tour enabled me to form a better idea of the great extent of the comparatively well settled country and of that which is still almost wholly undeveloped. I was everywhere received with the kindest welcome, and was much gratified in witnessing the enterprise, contentment, and loyalty manifested in every quarter.

Your attention will be invited to a measure for the creation of a Supreme Court. The necessity for such a measure has yearly become more and more apparent, since the organization of the Dominion; it is essential to our system of jurisprudence and to the settlement of constitutional questions.

You will also be invited to consider a Bill relating to the important subject of Insolvency.

Measures will be submitted to you providing for the organization of the government of the North West and the consolidation of the laws relating to that country; for a general Insurance law; and on the subject of Copyright.

Gratifying progress has been made in the survey of the Canada Pacific Railway route. Measures have been taken to secure the early construction of the Georgian Bay branch, and to provide a connection with the eastern railway system. The report of the surveys of the road from Lake Superior to Fort Garry, which will be ready in a few days, will afford information upon which tenders may be invited for the construction of the eastern and western portions of that section, so as to reach the navigable waters of the interior.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

The accounts of the past year will be laid before you. The estimates for the present financial year will also be submitted; they

will, I believe, be found to have been framed with every regard to economy, consistent with efficiency in the public service.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate; Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

I am happy to believe that notwithstanding the general and widespread commercial depression which has prevailed over the continent, the trade of Canada is sound, and that the contraction we have experienced in some branches of industry for the past year has not been greater than might naturally have been anticipated.

Papers will be submitted to you on the North-West troubles, and in reference to the negotiations between the Dominion Government and the Government of British Columbia on the subject of the Pacific Railway.

Steps have been taken during the recess for a combination of effort on the part of the several Provinces and the Dominion, to promote immigration from Europe under the general direction of the Dominion officials. It is hoped that the effect will be increased efficiency and economy in this branch of the public service.

I rely with confidence on your prudence and ability, and on your patriotic devotion to the great public interests entrusted to you; and I pray that the Divine blessing may rest upon your labors.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

*The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications address to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW*

*To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.*

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Quebec, 1st February, 1875.

We have been on the "qui vive" for the past week expecting Major General Smyth to visit the old fortress and inspect our 8th Battalion Stadacona Rifles, who are at present going through their annual drill; and a finer, cleaner, active, or more intelligent set of men I have seldom seen; their officers too would do credit to any regular regiment of the line—smart, handsome, well dressed gentlemen, who know their work; indeed the gallant colonel (Jack Reeve of the 79th, as his intimate friends call him) is right when he says "I tell you my boy I am proud of them."

But how comes it that the authorities at Ottawa reduce a crack corps like this down to 2 officers and 42 men per company, and allow but 5 companies to be raised, while they foster isolated country corps, many of which are composed of useless, dirty, unwashed old men and children, whose principal qualifications consist in being able to spit, smoke, and jabber politics, the officers undistinguishable from the men.

I hope our new Adjutant General will insist upon the Government adopting a better militia policy and make the force generally, something more than playing at soldiers—he certainly should order out the whole force in each military district this coming season and inspect them personally—he

will then see more than I or anyone else can tell him.

We had another dreadful conflagration last week and loss of life, the Beauport Lunatic Asylum having been partially destroyed, and over four hundred wretched beings turned out of doors at this inclement season—the 8th Batt. were sent for by the Mayor and a detachment of over one hundred men were quickly upon the ground rendering most valuable assistance.

QUEBECER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MONTREAL, 6th Feb. 1875.

There is little to chronicle in the matter of Volunteer movements at the present time—that excellent Instructor of Infantry Tactics Lieut. Colonel Lebranche has opened a Military class or school in which it is understood 1st and 2nd class certificates will be given to candidates passing the necessary examinations. It is rumored that a Regiment of Zouaves one thousand strong is to be raised in this City under the command of an officer who served in the late Pontifical Guards; the uniform and appointments to be similar to that worn by the force when first organized. This report does not however find much credit or favor amongst the Volunteers of British origin, inasmuch that they with some justice consider that the introduction of a Zouave corps amongst them of such a strength, and foreign system of drill, would not tend to benefit the Volunteer movement in the Dominion; moreover the Zouave uniform is expensive, certainly not calculated for a Canadian climate, and is now quite obsolete in the French army. A gentleman whose career has had but few parallels in the history of Canadians—died here very suddenly on the 1st instant. I alluded to the late Colonel W. M. B. Hartly, who responded to Garibaldi's call for aid in his Italian struggle with despotism, and in 1855, was a constant companion and served in the personal staff of that great patriot. During the siege of Palermo, he slept with him in the trenches and in many a hotly contested field, Colonel Hartly fought side by side with the brave men of the foreign Legion. On leaving the service General Garibaldi presented this gallant officer with a very handsome sword. Deceased took a very active part in the late American civil war, his talents securing him many posts of importance and emolument. He afterwards travelled abroad for the United States Government disposing of arms and equipments used during the war. Colonel Hartly was a man of liberal culture, was master of four modern languages, three of the dead languages, and was a fellow of the Society of Arts. His untimely death is much felt and regretted by his fellow citizens and all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

The Victoria Rifles are about giving an amateur performance at the Theatre Royal for the benefit of a public charity, the popularity of the *Vics* will doubtless ensure them a bumper house.