

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

And Military and Naval Gazette.

VOLUME V
1871.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW enters on the fifth year of its existence. When it was first projected fears were entertained for its ultimate success, as two efforts of a similar kind had been made and failed for want of support; but we are happy to say these fears were groundless, and that the VOLUNTEER REVIEW may now be said to be firmly established, thanks to the support it has met with from the hands of the Volunteer Force of the Dominion. It now circulates largely through Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and even the new Province of Manitoba has extended its generous support. Nor is it confined to these Provinces only, but in the Mother Country, and even the United States it has subscribers and supporters. No other journal in the Dominion has so wide and extended a circulation as the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, and therefore it offers unparalleled facilities to general advertisers. Our terms for advertising will be found liberal on application, either personally, or by letter *post paid*.

The VOLUNTEER REVIEW will be supplied to clubs at the usual reduced rates, viz:

CLUBS of Five or upwards will be supplied at \$1.50 per annum for each copy.

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No Volunteer officer can be well posted concerning the condition, movements, and prospects of the Force unless he receives the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

We number amongst our Correspondents and Contributors some of the ablest writers on military subjects in America.

Full and reliable reports of RIFLE MATCHES, INSPECTIONS, and other matters connected with the Force appear regularly in our Columns.

AGENTS.

Liberal terms will be offered to Adjutants, Instructors, and others who act as agents for us in their several corps.

LT.-COL. R. LOVELACE, is our General Agent for the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

MR. ROGER HUNTER for that of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

S. M. PETTINGILL & Co., 37 Park Row, New York, and GEO. P. ROWELL & Co., 10 Park Row, New York, are our only Advertising Agents in that city.

REMITTANCES should be addressed to DAWSON KERR, Proprietor VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS

All Communications regarding the Militia or Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

Communications intended for insertion should be written on one side of the paper only.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Correspondents must invariably send us confidentially, their name and address.

All letters must be Post-paid, or they will not be taken out of the Post Office.

Adjutants and Officers of Corps throughout the Provinces are particularly requested to favor us regularly with weekly information concerning the movements and doings of their respective Corps, including the fixtures for drill, marching out, rifle practice &c.

We shall feel obliged to such to forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that it may reach us in time for publication.

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The Volunteer Review.

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,
To guard the Monarch, fence the law."

OTTAWA, MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1871.

We would again remind our Subscribers in Ontario that our Agent LT.-COL. LOVELACE is now on a collecting tour through that Province, and would feel obliged by their promptly turning up to him their individual indebtedness to this office.

If the British Cabinet are averse to Colonial responsibilities they can at least appreciate the abilities of Colonial statesmen, and it would be well for the interests of the empire that the services of men like the present Canadian representative on the High Commission should be rendered available in the diplomatic relations with the United States. We can see no reason why Great Britain should not be represented at Washington by a Canadian Statesman. Such an arrangement would secure the presence of a party thoroughly understanding the interests of the empire in its relations with the United States, and more competent to deal with any questions which might arise than an Englishman whose knowledge must at best be limited to routine duties, as well as cramped by instructions received from Downing Street, neither the clearest nor wisest at any time.

The world has beheld with astonishment the *faux pas* of the present British Ambassador in congratulating President Grant on the mere performance of his duty during the late Fenian raid; the ridicule he heaped on his country by total ignorance of the facts of the case and the slavish adulation with which those thanks were offered. Whatever Mr. Gladstone's other failings may be

he is at least able to discern commanding ability, as the following extract will prove:

Mr. Gladstone, in the course of his remarks on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, took occasion to offer the tribute which is subjoined to the statesman whom Canada furnishes to the Joint High Commission. He says: "We stand at the present moment upon the very eve of despatching to America a commission of which my noble friend the President of the Council will be on the British side the head—(hear, hear); with my noble friend will be Sir Edward Thornton, the able, proved, and trusted representative of this country; and Sir John A. Macdonald, than whom perhaps no one is so well qualified to represent the interests of the empire in every question that affects British North America." (Hear, hear.)

This is undoubtedly a very graceful recognition of eminent and statesmanlike abilities, and is very flattering to the Canadian people, whose destinies the gallant Knight has so materially assisted in shaping. It only requires the further step shadowed forth to convince them that their interests are in hands that thoroughly understand what those interests are, and how indissolubly they are bound up in those of the British Empire.

THE RIVERS AND CANALS OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

IV.

At the late meeting of the Dominion Board of Trade one of the speakers characterized the construction of the Sault Ste. Marie Canal as a *military necessity*, with which commercial men had no concern—a fallacy, by the way which pervades the whole class, and one as mischievous as dangerous. If an argument was needed to prove the danger of allowing combinations for the furtherance of class interests, the occasion referred to would furnish it; developing a sectionalism injurious to the best interests of the country generally, and a narrowness of political knowledge to be attributed in all cases to selfishness. The agricultural interests of Canada, represented by over 80 per cent. of her population, had neither an exponent or representative at the Dominion Board of Trade, consequently commercial interests alone—in other words, the ideas of mere traders thereon were those that pervaded the assembly to the exclusion of a national commercial policy, and the eliciting of broad views of public interests.

This was especially apparent in the mode of dealing with the Canal policy of Canada, none of the sage propounders of the very strange theories put forward being able to get beyond the idea that the sole purpose for which the Canadian canals were constructed and ought to be enlarged was "the competition for the trade of the Western States." The fact that the United States coasting laws afforded an insuperable barrier to any such competition rendering it futile and impossible being altogether lost