

herewith enclose copies of their written statements, together with the official reports, which explain the whole affair. These witnesses go back to a time three-quarters of an hour before the entry of the head of Stone's brigade, and about two hours ahead of the time, I personally reached the piles of burning cotton, of which there were many, and I invite your careful perusal of their statements, for they are positive that they saw rebel cavalry soldiers ripping open the bales of cotton, and applying fire. They also saw rebel soldiers plundering the stores on Main street, which Gen. Hampton attributes to our men, and they positively assert that Hampton had already gone out of Columbia so that he could not and did not see his men applying fire. Now Hampton admits that the cotton was rolled out in the streets "for the purpose of burning," but that he forbade the burning, lest the fire should extend to the houses, and I reiterate that no matter what his orders were, the men of his army, either his rear guard or his stragglers, did apply the fire, and that this was a sufficient cause for all else that followed.

With great respect, yours,
W. T. SUMNER, General.

REVIEWS

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a neatly printed pamphlet of sixteen pages from the "Gazette" Printing House, Montreal, the subject matter of which is "Comments on the Proceedings and Evidence on the Charges preferred by Mr. HUNTINGTON, M.P., against the Government of Canada,"—but as the REVIEW professes to be non-political, we forbear offering any opinion on its contents.

The *Phrenological Journal* for November has been received, and find it on perusal quite equal to any of its predecessors. It has a capital life-like likeness of the Rev. Dr. J. BLANCHARD, President of Wheaton College, Ill.—a man who had labored more assiduously, perhaps, than that of any other in the United States in the cause of the liberation of the Slaves of the South. In its pages will always be found a large amount of interesting and instructive reading. SAMUEL R. WELLS, 389, Broadway, New York, Editor and Proprietor. Price—50cts. a No. or \$3 per annum.

Wood's *Household Magazine* for November has been received. The contents of which are:—A Sermon on a Skimmer; Mrs. Pomeroy's Pin Money; The Nest over the River; Upon the Stand; Max Kromer; Pianissimo; Growing Aged Together; Codfish and Potatoes; Beautiful Leaves; How a Monkey made a Man; A Little Club Affair; In the Rough; Misery Jippeau; A Babe in the Wood; Children's Evening Hymn; The Nail; The Family Servants. Editorial—How we Found the Light. Correspondence—Cottage Design; Past, Present, and Future. Literary Notices—Our Housekeeper; Laughing Stock.

Price of Magazine, one dollar per year—with the Chromo "Yosemite," one dollar and a half. Address—Wood's *Household Magazine*, Newburg, N.Y.

Blackwood for October contain the following articles:—The Parisians; Book IX.; Narrative of Prince Charlie's Escape; A Railway Junction, or the Romance of Ladybank; Vienna in Exhibition twice; Edgar Waryrie's Escape; Republic or Monarchy in France; Autumn; Sayings and doings of the Recess. The Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140, Fulton Street, New York.

CORRESPONDENCE.

I am not held responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—Permit me briefly, but in all courtesy, to say thanks; for your very flattering appreciation of the hasty, sketchy inconclusiveness of my infliction upon the REVIEW, and at the same time to disclaim any pretence to the heroic attributes inferred from their spirit, tone, or tenor. That a soldier should occasionally, by word or pen, evince his approval of a good blow, gallant deed, or generous act, is arrogating no exclusive merit, such as idiosyncrasy, being as natural to his vocation, as it is inseparable from every soldierly instinct.

Having inadvertently lifted upon military ethics it may be curious, if not instructive to note an aphorism imputed to the first Napoleon. "Allow me to write a peoples song, and let who will make their Laws." Now, was this the mere ebullition of a chafed and crushed spirit seeking some solace for shattered Fleets and routed Armies, in Napoleonic epigram? Or did a genius—which dictated those stirring appeals to the Legions of France; rousing them to a frenzied pitch of military enthusiasm—imagine that in Deben's Sea song there breathed a talismanic analogous to that of itself, and, therefore, a solution to Nelson's victories? These conjectures are not derogatory to so great a warrior, that very greatness entitling him to indulge in crotchets of which we see so many instances in lesser men.

How far the invincibility of our gallant tars has been stimulated by the inspiring strains of "Rule Britannia," or the popular epic of "The Saucy Arethusa," I am not prepared to decide. My limited knowledge of the brave reckless dog, is, that the current of his strains have a strong hand set. Driven by the green bushes, a favourite cruising ground, where he backs and fills, making good weather of it too, with a heavy consort in tow. Whilst the hirsute cavalry men breaks no squares, routes no squadrons, but, will, with absurd perversity, insist

upon being a "Butterfly born in a bower"—with a decided weakness for flowers. Perhaps the ignoring of the warlike is the delicacy that eschews the shop. Nor is it desirable either service should bore society by fighting their battles over again—"shouldering a crutch to show how fields are won." But to the youthful mind there is a deep fascination in the recital of daring adventures by land or sea. And it may be no excessive optimism to believe, that were the achievements of our Army and Navy—in some abridged form to occupy a prominent place in our elementary school literature, it might have a salutary influence, inasmuch as it—intuitively at least—inculcates a generous courage, self-abnegation and natural spirit. There need, alas! be no dread of a too rampant military spirit, and less, if possible, of a subservient hero worship in an age, the spirit of which is—*Nil admiraie*.

SABREUR.

New Hamburg, Oct. 30th, 1873.

The Chicago Bank have resumed specie payment. On their account \$68,000 silver coin was received there on Saturday from the Philadelphia mint, and one private bank and one national bank are paying it out at par.

A fire broke out in Canestoga N. Y., on Sunday night, which was quenched next morning after burning over six acres of territory, destroying three hotels and thirty-two dwellings, and between forty and fifty places of business. The total loss is estimated by insurance agents at \$150,000 total insurance at \$90,000. The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary.

A Memphis special says the situation is greatly improved, and a better feeling prevails among all classes. It is having fallen almost constantly for nearly twenty-four hours, it is doing a good work in cleansing the streets and gutters.

A young couple were married in a balloon above San Francisco on Saturday.

Secretary Richardson expects to issue this week about \$20,000 of silver in the regular course of business, but this will depend somewhat upon circumstances. A gold should go up, silver would not be paid out, nor would it if it were to be paid to bankers for speculation purposes. It is not to be expected that the treasury will begin just now to pay out silver coin for every purpose and thus exhaust the entire amount held by the Government.

A London despatch says a private letter from Borneo, dated August 12th, says Livingston is a prisoner in Central Africa, held by a savage tribe, and is, unable to pay the ransom which has been demanded for his release.

The Right Hon. Sir William Bovillo, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas is dead.

The mills in Newburg, N. Y., have closed indefinitely, and 400 persons are thrown out of employment.