

THE
VOLUNTEER REVIEW
 And Military and Naval Gazette.
 VOLUME V.
 1871.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW enters on the fifth year of its existence. When its 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 was 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.

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No Volunteer officer can be well posted concerning the condition, movements, and objects 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.

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

REMITTANCES should be addressed to DAWESON 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, &c. &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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Are our only Advertising Agents in that city.



The Volunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, MAY 8, 1871.

NOTICE TO OLD SUBSCRIBES.

As a great number of our early subscribers in the Volunteer Force must have been promoted since they became subscribers, they will kindly favor us by sending in their present rank and proper address.

PRUSSIAN successes during the campaign of 1870 have directed the attention of the military authorities of Great Britain to the defects of their own system of military training. Lord Straithairn, whose experience, as Sir Hugh Rose, has been obtained in active service during the trying Indian campaigns of 1857-8, and previously by service in the Crimea, addressed the House of Lords on the 29th of March last on the want of strategical education in the British army. His speech, which we republish, will be interesting to our readers, needs no comment except in so far as it applies to the condition of the Canadian army—in which, "the mechanism of movements are taught, but not their strategical object or adaptation." As ably and forcibly put in the noble lord's address the officer that leads his men under

fire without a thorough knowledge of the object to be attained—the facilities afforded by the ground over which he manoeuvres for its attainment, and the capacity to keep his force in hand, well under cover, and within proper supporting distance, only leads those men to useless and wholesale slaughter. No courage, daring, or endurance can compensate for a want of strategical knowledge, and under the present system of military instruction that is not to be obtained. But in Canada we have all the necessary facilities for acquiring strategical knowledge. Our annual encampments for district and brigade drill affords opportunities for teaching what the object of each movement means, and it is only necessary to have an aide memoire, with the principles explained in the most simple manner, to have a fair share of practice and theory acquired by the officers of our Volunteer force, who are behind no class in general intelligence and esprit. In order, however, to reap the greatest possible benefit from this principle of practical instruction it will be necessary to complete the Canadian army in all its branches. The recommendations of the Adjutant General and Lieut. General Sir James Lindsay should be carried out. A commissariat department is a necessity which cannot be avoided; the same may be said of the medical staff, and an ordnance corps or Quartermaster-General's department is an absolute condition of success. Even in teaching the principles of strategy it is very little matter to an officer what his knowledge may be if he is obliged to advance over ground with the topography of which he is unacquainted.

It has been charged against the officers of the French army that they did not know their own country sufficiently well to manoeuvre in the face of a foreign foe, that they were actually indebted to Yankee enterprise for the maps of the localities in which they were operating, and that the very same blunder was the direct as well as immediate cause of the loss of the battle of Sadowa by the Austrians. A story is told that in one of the subsequent actions the Austrian commanding officer opposed to the Prussian Prince Frederick Charles had no map of the locality in which he had taken up his position, none could be supplied by his staff, and at last it was found that the curé of the village was the fortunate possessor of the required document; it required, however, considerable negotiation to obtain it, as his reverence would not suffer it to leave his sight, he was allowed to accompany the cherished plan to headquarters. It was there found that both flanks of the position were turned, and very little hope remained of being able to extricate the army from the position in which it was placed. During the night, however, news arrived of an armistice and suspension of hostilities, and as it was evident the campaign had terminated the Austrian General was obliged to apply to the Prussian for liberty to pass through