

**THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.**

Is published EVERY MONDAY MORNING, at  
OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by DAWSON  
KERR, Proprietor.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly  
in advance.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS:**

All Communications regarding the Militia or  
Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Depart-  
ment, 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 com-  
munications. 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 in-  
formation of this kind as early as possible, so that  
it may reach us in time for publication.

**WANTED,**

Agents for "The Volunteer Review,"

IN EVERY

CITY, TOWN,

And

BATTALION

IN THE DOMINION,

TO WHOM

**LIBERAL TERMS WILL BE OFFERED**

On application to the PROPRIETOR of

**THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW,**  
OTTAWA.

**CONTENTS OF LAST NUMBER.**

POETRY.—The Northern Light.

DEATH AT THE ALTAR (Continued.)

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

CHEERFUL WOMEN.

RIFLE MATCHES.—Between the Thamesford and  
Oxford Infantry Companies. Wardsville Tournament.  
North Oxford Infantry Companies. Mount For-  
at Arva.

CORRESPONDENCE.—The Revolver vs. the Sabre:  
"Sabreur." Semi-Annual Inspection at Leam-  
ington. From Toronto. From Wardsville.

LEADERS.—Re-enrollment. The Family of Col.  
Baldwin. The Fenian Congress. Col. Brunel's  
new Drill. The Alabama Claims. The Ottawa  
General. The Whelan case. Alaska.

V. Garrison Artillery. Swearing in the Governor  
SELECTIONS.—Sad Times. Romantic incident in  
the Spanish Revolution. An Essay on Volun-  
teering. Military Breach-loaders. A Southern  
hit at the Yankees. The 13th Batt., and volun-  
teering. The N.Y. "Tribune" on Train. Inci-  
dents of the American War.

MISCELLANEOUS AND CANADIAN ITEMS.

REMITTANCES.

VARITIES, &c.



# The Volunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1863.

MR. GEORGE C. HOLLAND is authorised  
to act as travelling Agent for the VOLUNTEER  
Review, in the Province of Ontario, and will  
visit the principal cities and towns during  
the present month.

The French press of the Province of  
Quebec is at present somewhat exercised on  
the question of militia enrollment under  
the Act of last Session and endeavours to  
conceal the fact of present supineness of  
the French Canadians in volunteer matters  
by unrolling the records of the past and  
pointing to the achievements of a past  
generation. No one has ever for a moment  
called into question the patriotism or loyalty  
of the people of Quebec; whenever re-  
quired in times of danger they have ever  
been foremost in upholding the cause of  
their country; but that which has elicited  
comment from the Ontario journals is the  
apathy of lower Canadians in upholding the  
volunteer system at the present time of  
peace. The rural population especially, in  
these two great divisions of the Dominion,  
present a marked contrast in this respect.  
The reason for this is not to be found in  
any dislike which the people might enter-  
tain for military service, which on the  
contrary they have always been remarkably  
fond of, but is to be found in the fact that  
the men who, on account of their local and  
social position, are regarded as leaders  
in their communities, through petty  
jealousy, or fancied neglect do not exert  
themselves in the volunteer cause to the  
same extent as the corresponding class in  
Ontario. The genius of the two people is very  
different; what the one does from a sense  
of duty and the feeling which springs from  
the responsibility of citizenship, the other  
would not care to perform if there was no  
eclat to be obtained from the act no matter  
how praiseworthy it might be. In these  
remarks we do not at all wish to depreciate  
in any way a people for whom we have  
always entertained a profound admiration,  
and who are now in the persons of the  
gallant Canadian Zouaves giving such proofs  
of lofty heroism and devotion. But it seems  
to require some tangible danger or excite-  
ment of enthusiasm to rouse them to a  
comprehension of the necessity of military  
service. There are however instances in  
various parts of the province of a desire to  
avoid the draft by volunteering, but it is  
our conviction that in the greater number  
of the rural districts it will be found neces-  
sary to put in force in Quebec the provisions  
of the Act which are so obnoxious to Ontario.  
This may not be such a hardship as some  
persons are inclined to believe, for, from the  
peculiarities of the people, their mode of  
colonization, and the traditions of former  
times of which they are so tenacious, they  
will not be likely to regard with very great  
disfavor a system under which they fought  
so well and successfully in former wars.

In this respect Sir George E. Cartier, in  
framing his measure, acted true to the  
instincts of his people, and if he erred in  
supposing the Upper Canadians were the  
same, the error was excusable, for when  
considering the systems that had been tried  
equally in times of invasion, and comparing

the complete success of the one and the  
undoubted failure of the other, it was but  
natural that he should adopt the logical  
conclusion forced upon him by circumstan-  
ces, and, imbued with an earnest desire to  
make the country a defensible as possible,  
revive a mode of organization which worked  
so successfully in the most trying period of  
his country's history. Thus the law which  
he has given to the country is, with modifi-  
cations to suit the more advanced ideas of  
the times, much the same as that under  
which the people of Canada so long with-  
stood the united power of Great Britain and  
her colonies, now the United States. The  
events connected with the last Fenian Raid  
are fresh in the memories of our readers,  
and how miserably ill prepared we were to  
repel a foe from our borders. The indig-  
nation of the sturdy yeomen of Welland on  
finding themselves indebted for protection  
to the gallant youths of Toronto and Hamil-  
ton smoulders even yet. And what is the  
cause of all this? Want of organization! Had  
there been anything like that which obtain-  
ed on the same historic ground in former  
days a different history would be given  
to-day of O'Neil and his Rapparees. That  
organization the present act supplies, it  
suits the people of Quebec, and is sufficiently  
elastic in its provisions to be brought into  
harmony with those of Ontario. It is now  
generally conceded that further modifi-  
cations in detail, not principle, are required  
in the law, and these will doubtless be  
made in good time. If we wish to maintain  
our independence along with British con-  
nection we must adopt the idea of an armed  
nation; making our country formidable, not  
by the strength of its standing army, but by  
having a trained population so organized  
that it can at any moment be called into  
active existence without endangering peace-  
ful liberties and interests.

Since writing the foregoing we have  
received a letter from our correspondent  
"Militiaman" who defends the views  
enunciated by him in a former letter against  
the strictures of G. W., whose very able  
letter appeared in a recent number of the  
REVIEW. As the question at issue between  
our correspondents is one of discipline under  
the new Act it bears upon the question at  
present in hand, and we are happy to find  
ourselves in accordance with much that has  
been written by one of undoubted know-  
ledge and attainments. The peculiar con-  
stitution of the Volunteer Force is such  
that it would be impossible to maintain any  
portion of it, however small, in anything  
like an efficient state of organization under  
the command of unpopular officers. The  
number of men required to form a volunteer  
Company can always be obtained by those  
officers who command the esteem of their  
fellow citizens in their immediate vicinity,  
and wherever we find the spirit of Volun-  
teering falling slack, depend upon it the  
fault lies with those who, perhaps too much