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The Volunteer Review,

I AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1873.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be *pre-paid*. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and in the corner the words "Printer's copy" written; and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage.

The following amusing paragraph appeared in *Broad Arrow* of 14th June.

"The remains of Sir John Cartier, Canadian Minister of Militia, will be honored by a public funeral, at the expense of the Dominion. The Foot Guards and the Ottawa Volunteers will be sent to Montreal to take part in the ceremony. The Dominion Parliament has also prayed that the Governor General shall cause a public monument to be erected to his memory. Mr. Langevin is acting temporarily as Minister, and his attention has been drawn to the general scandals we exposed last week, and the disorganized condition of the Militia generally. Cases were mentioned in which regiments had but five or six men to one officer, and one in which there were twenty-one men to

nineteen officers. The whole question urgently needs heroic treatment."

We cannot wish with the poet for the gift of "Seeing ourselves as others see us," if the effusions of our contemporaries are fair evidence of the accuracy of our friends' vision as well as estimation.

The question which would naturally arise now is as to the value of public opinion as shadowed forth in Great Britain by its Press; we cannot but think that the affairs of that country suffer in no ordinary degree from gross ignorance of the very description of which the paragraph quoted is an example. It would very naturally be thought that the correct name of one of the greatest statesmen the British Empire has seen during the present century, would be well known to the British people and Press, although he was born in a colony, served no apprenticeship in Manchester, and was not the pander of the Whitechapel mob; apart from such gross and inexcusable blundering, our contemporary displays a spirit in dealing with what it is pleased to term *general scandals* of our Military Organization which is highly reprehensible and illustrates the parable of the *beam* and the *mote* in a striking manner, for we have him advising *heroic treatment*, whatever that may mean, for the cure of evils which exist in his imagination alone; at the same time according to his shewing in the administration of the British War Department which has been heroically treated by his friend CARDWELL, errors of the greatest magnitude, disorganization of the most glaring description, and gross frauds exist, so patent that the same issue contains an article of a column and a quarter entitled the "The Supplies for the Manœuvres," which according to his own shewing involves frauds of sufficient magnitude in the Commissariat line alone for a force not exceeding 12,000 men sufficient to defray the salaries and expense of our War Department, including headquarter staff for one year at least; and they administer the affairs of a force quite as effective as anything the British Army can shew, of 43,000 embodied troops and of a reserve of 650,000 men. There is very little doubt that the course *Broad Arrow* has adopted with reference to this affair should be placed to the account of party feelings and prejudices, it would suit his friends, the Whig-Radicals, to submit Canada to *heroic treatment* in the way of casting her adrift, and if possible giving that such a direction as would lead to annexation. We have just such another mischievous insignificant clique to deal with here, and as the Yankees know the full value of money and will expend it freely in carrying out their schemes, we see no reason why the combined movement so simultaneously undertaken by both parties should not have been well organized for a definite purpose, and that would be to remove the obstacle to annexation which the great statesman (whose proper name *Broad*

Arrow is ignorant of) created thereto by attempting to bring our Military Organization into contempt; but we can assure plotters at home and abroad that public opinion here is decidedly opposed to any such movement and that they calculate in total ignorance of the feelings or intentions of the great mass of the Canadian people.

We will not talk of patriotism in connection with the course those people have followed; their ideas are purely commercial and as a matter of course, the ultimate object of their policy is to make money, and that must be accomplished no matter if the source was as disreputable as Vespasian's infamous tax; but while this reasoning is plausible as well as possible in Great Britain it is neither one nor the other in Canada, which is an agricultural country, and in no sense a purely commercial one. As a matter of course our people have a direct interest in the soil and are prepared at all times to vindicate their right thereof; with such unpromising materials the disciples of the Manchester School will make no progress towards the accomplishment of their purpose, and although they may succeed in humiliating Great Britain they will never entail any such evil on the people of Canada.

In conclusion we would advise *Broad Arrow* to suspend judgment in all cases respecting the Canadian Army and people until it is better informed about both.

Our readers will recollect that Captain Ericsson on the failure of the celebrated *Lay torpedo boat* offered to produce one ready for service in the month of June that would be effective, the *United States Army and Navy Journal* of 28th June, says: "We are glad to inform our readers that the constructor is up to time and that we have had an opportunity of examining his aggressive *torpedo* (so named in contradistinction to the coast defence *torpedo*) now ready to be shipped at the Delamater Iron Works in this city," (New York). The following is a description of the vessel as given by our contemporary, who promises the public a full account of the intended trials which are to come off on the coast of Long Island.

"The hull of the torpedo vessel, composed of steel plates, is quite small, being eleven feet long, thirty two inches deep, and twenty inches broad. The midship section is rectangular, while the top and bottom of the hull are planes perfectly parallel. The sides are vertical from stem to stern, the water lines being moderately sharp at both ends. The displacement is greater than might be supposed, considering the small dimensions of the hull, 2,000 lbs. being scarcely sufficient to balance the weight of the whole apparatus. The propellers are of the two-bladed type, three feet two inches in diameter, with a pitch of five feet. Both propellers revolve round a common centre, yet in opposite directions, an indispensable condition, it appears, since the powerful rotary movement of a single propeller would cause the small hull to heel,