

## THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

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### 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  
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, SEPTEMBER 20, 1869.

### NOTICE TO WESTERN SUBSCRIBERS.

G. B. DOUGLAS is no longer agent for the  
VOLUNTEER REVIEW in the Province of On-  
tario. Parties having business to transact,  
will please do so by letter or otherwise with  
the office at Ottawa. Persons having money  
to pay will please remit to us by mail.

—LORD ELCHO proposes an International  
Rifle Match between Great Britain and the  
United States. His Lordship may not be  
aware that there are no rifle associations in  
the United States, except among the Ger-  
mans, and that rifle instruction in their  
army is almost unknown. The singular back-  
wardness of our cousins in this respect has  
been noted in these columns, but we hope  
they will not remain long in this condition.

—GENERAL SHERMAN has been appointed  
Secretary of war, in the cabinet of General  
Grant, *ad interim*. It is not yet known who  
will be appointed permanently to the vacant  
office.

—AN account of the proceedings for the  
rebuilding of the Wolfe-Montcalm monument  
at Quebec will be found on another page.  
We join with the *Chronicle* in regretting the  
absence of the Masonic fraternity from the  
laying of the corner stone.

—QUEBEC and Point Levis will no longer  
form a separate military district on and after  
the 30th September. Thereafter all reports  
&c., hitherto transmitted to Major General  
Stisted, will be forwarded to Quebec for  
transmission to headquarters.

—GENERAL STISTED proceeds to England  
after the above date, accompanied by Capt.  
Parsons, A.D.C. Capt. Fryer, A.D.C., will  
also cease to draw staff pay, Lieut. Colonel  
Middleton to act as Deputy Assistant Quar-  
termaster General on the same date.

—THE town of Ingersoll recently voted  
\$60 for the purpose of defraying the ex-  
penses of the Volunteer Company of that  
town during the annual drill. This is a com-  
mendable move and should be imitated in  
every town or village possessing a Volunteer  
Company.

—THE first prize meeting of the Richmond  
Rifle Association will take place at the Rifle  
range of Lord Aylmer, Melbourne Quebec  
on Tuesday 21st inst., (Tomorrow) and fol-  
lowing days. The prize list offered is very  
good and if the weather is at all favorable a  
good time may be expected.

—WE are glad to observe the enrolment  
of Volunteers in the maritime provinces is  
being rapidly proceeded with. The political  
influence which has been brought to bear  
for the purpose of keeping the men from  
joining the ranks has been gradually grow-  
ing weaker, until, as we now find, the people  
are awakening to the realities of the situa-  
tion, and the demagogues who so long  
played upon popular passion are at last  
"played out" themselves.

REPORT OF THE STATE OF THE MILITIA OF THE  
DOMINION OF CANADA FOR THE YEAR 1868.—  
This is the title of a Blue Book of 233 pages  
which we have received and which professes  
to contain an account of the military  
strength of Canada for the year mentioned.  
We are bound to accept the figures set down  
herein as correct, therefore we will proceed  
to a consideration thereof without reference  
to abstract questions as to their validity,  
relying upon the justness of the report. "L.  
C." whose letter will be found elsewhere,  
makes a strong point with regard to the  
manner in which those totals, as printed,  
have been arrived at; but that is not the  
question with which we have to deal. It is  
a question of veracity between him and the  
Militia Department; we will accept the  
account as given by the latter. On

page 3 we find declared:—"The enrolment  
of the Volunteer militia has been very satis-  
factory, and in addition to the old corps  
previously in existence, many new ones  
have been added to the strength in parts of  
the country where no local organization had  
previous existence, the list of the corps of  
Active Militia, with the nominal strength as  
they now stand, will be found in the appen-  
dix and of which the following is a brief ab-  
stract:—"

Cavalry, total in four Provinces.....	1,386
Field Batteries " " .....	719
Gar. Artillery " " .....	3,315
Engineers " " .....	184
Rifles & Infantry " " .....	31,566

Total..... 37,170

A recapitulation of the above gives for	
Ontario, total of all arms.....	21,816
Quebec " " .....	12,637
New Brunswick " " .....	1,789
Nova Scotia " " .....	928

Totals..... 37,170

It will be observed that this total does  
not come up to the requirements of the  
Militia Act which requires 40,000 men, but  
we are told that, "there seems no doubt that  
the present total authorized number of  
Active Militia, will be raised and maintained  
by voluntary enrolment in the several pro-  
vinces, in proportion as the population of  
each compares with the others. In Ontario  
the quota is already complete, and in the  
other provinces the deficiencies are being  
rapidly filled." With this assertion, judging  
from recent general orders, we see no cause  
to quarrel, and we may felicitate ourselves  
upon possessing so good a force.

We will next proceed to the Reserve  
Militia from a recapitulation of which we  
glean the following result:—

Ontario.....	315,352
Quebec.....	215,216
New Brunswick.....	55,622
Nova Scotia.....	69,376

Giving a total of Reserve Militia for the  
Dominion of 656,066. This, in addition to  
the Volunteer total, may be considered the  
actual fighting strength of the Dominion  
available in case of war.

Under the heading of "Volunteer Militia"  
we find the drill for the year has been con-  
sidered very satisfactory. 2,000 circular  
tents and 10,000 blankets have been added  
to the public stores; the linen tents, poles,  
pins and mallets have been manufactured in  
Canada. The next consideration is one  
which has exercised both officers and men,  
especially of rural Battalions, to a great ex-  
tent, and which we believe is fairly stated  
on page 18 of this report. The great diffi-  
culty will always be to frame regulations to  
suit all sections of the Canadian people in-  
terested in the annual drill of the Volun-  
teers. In view of this we would recom-  
mend a wide latitude to the time in which  
they would be allowed to complete their  
drill.

At the conclusion of the paragraphs under