

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

Is published EVERY MONDAY MORNING, at OTTAWA, C. W., by MOSS & O'BRIEN, Proprietors.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

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 the respective Corps including the fixtures for drill, marching out, rifle practice, &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.

The Volunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.



"Unbribed, unbought, on swords we draw,
To guard the Monarch, once the law."

OTTAWA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1867

NOTICE.

Agents and others are informed that we cannot supply back numbers. Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 are entirely gone. On the receipt of lists, we send promptly the back numbers as far as possible. We regret our inability to comply with requests for numbers from the first, but as large editions have been completely exhausted, it is unavoidable.

OUR YANKEE AND FENIAN NEIGHBORS.

Notwithstanding the abject manner in which some of the journals of the mother country debased themselves in eulogies of the United States authorities in the matter of the Fenian raid upon Canada, crediting them with prompt and neighborly action in arresting the progress of the Fenian horde, when the fact was they winked at the outlawry, and only interfered after the vagabonds had been driven back by our volunteers, for the purpose of gaining credit for a respect for international law which they did not deserve; notwithstanding the amiable way in which British statesmen proposed to settle the 'Alabama' question, so that nothing should remain but the pleasantest memories between such excellent friends, Jonathan is the same bitter enemy of Great Britain that he has ever been. If Great Britain were assured against difficulties in all other parts of the world, she could count upon such conduct on the part of the United

States as would be above reproach, but towards everything British Jonathan is only a fair-weather friend; and should disaster occur to the British Empire, no foul bird of evil omen could scent the carrion more quickly than the American eagle. The history of the relations between England and the United States has been the same from the beginning: England constantly bearing with provocations because of a "common language and religion," which she would tolerate from no other Power, and attributing the lawless repudiation of international obligations to that license which republicanism evolves in communities uneducated in the amenities of life; and at the same time giving the American Government credit for good motives, while every appearance of trouble in Great Britain has been the signal for renewed insolence and bad faith on the part of our neighbors. To go no further back than the rebellion in Ireland in 1848, the Russian war and the revolt in the East Indies: in all these cases the sympathy of the United States, and all the assistance both moral and material which they dared to employ, were given to the enemies of England. In return for this, during the American war, the Government of Great Britain, while professing neutrality, strained every point to favor the Government of the United States, giving it free access to the markets of England for purchasing ships, munitions of war, clothing and medicines, while the struggling South were denied all these privileges. But no sooner had the North, by the aid of England's one-sided neutrality, triumphed over the South, than the Northern Government began to pander to and encourage a band of desperadoes whose openly avowed purpose was to strike a blow at the integrity of the British Empire. Had any measure of success attended the raid upon Canada in June last, and had a simultaneous rising taken place in Ireland with any probability of success, it is not too much to believe that Fenianism would have received the countenance and support of the American people and their rulers. Owing, however, to the wretched failure of that rashly enterprise, the American Government thought it politic to appear to withdraw its countenance from the project. But it was careful not to do so until after the robber horde had been beaten back, and its tacit encouragement would have been useless; and even then its interference took the form of shielding the ruffians by mock trials, the enlargement of the prisoners, and the restoration of their arms; and even the President, in his message to Congress, thought it necessary to apologise for the action taken by the Government in the matter. There are many reasons of a prudential nature why the United States should not desire an embroglio with a foreign Power until Southern resistance has been thoroughly crushed. But the jubilation which has found expression from one end of the Union to the other at the dim prospect of British humiliation,

of which the recent Fenian emote in Kil-larney gave a glimpse, shows that nothing would be more grateful to the Yankee heart than Fenian success. Again lawless demonstrations have become the order of the day in the United States; again money begins to flow into the Fenian treasury; again we are threatened with invasion in the spring; and all this goes on under the very nose of the American Government, at the very time when it has the impertinence to urge satisfaction for the alleged breach of neutrality involved in the 'Alabama' claims. If England remains free from complications abroad or troubles at home, and should demand an explanation of the encouragement of hostile preparations against British dominions, American "statesmen" depend upon their unblushing mendacity and British credulity to get out of the difficulty—not without dishonor; they care nothing about that—but without bringing down upon themselves that retribution which their disregard of international obligations so richly deserves. But, on the other hand, should England become involved in difficulties, Americans would insolently assert their right to assist and encourage the disaffected everywhere, and particularly against Britain, while they would quite as insolently deny the right of England to even sympathize with the millions of enslaved Southerners, whose crime is that they had the courage to assert the very principles upon which the Government of the United States itself is founded. Knowing from the past history of the United States, and from these recent indications of their cowardly disposition to take advantage of any pre-engagement of the British forces to assume a hostile attitude against England or her colonies, that we have nothing to hope from American honor or fair play, we have constantly urged the necessity of treating them as covert foes, and of being prepared to defend our independence in every emergency. Fortunately for us, the present uprising in Ireland will not give our American neighbors that opportunity of assisting hostile demonstrations against us which they desire. If it did, it would find us lamentably unprepared, and we should bitterly lament the fact that the prosecution of the Union project precluded the possibility of the inauguration of a comprehensive system of defence; but Confederation must be accomplished or defeated within a few weeks, and when that is determined there will be no longer any excuse for delay. And we shall rejoice at it; for we feel it is just as certain as the sun shines at noon day, that if England should become involved in war, just so certain would we be made the victims of Yankee cupidity and Fenian bloodthirstiness, unless we were prepared and determined to defend our British freedom, our altars and our homes to the last. Ample preparation is the one and only way by which we can secure immunity from the lawlessness of the people of the United States, whether Fenian or Yankee, and our aspirations for a higher