

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

And Military and Naval Gazette.

VOLUME V.
1871.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW enters on the fifth year of its existence. When it was first 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 we are 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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AGENTS.

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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, rifle practice &c.

We shall be 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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The Volunteer Review, AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1871.

We are indebted to the courtesy of the *Broad Arrow* for the proof slips of its article on "Military Organs and the Volunteers," which appeared in its issue of the 21st, and which we reprint, the more readily, because it is an answer to a charge of unfair dealing towards the English volunteers, brought against that journal by our spirited contemporary, the *Volunteer News*. Our sympathies are decidedly with the latter; both by the people, press and government of Great Britain the Volunteers have been unfairly treated, and even in this article it is alleged that the movement arose out of a desire to avoid the Militia Ballot. The *Broad Arrow* in this must surely be mistaken, as it would be as comparatively easy for men of good family and ample means to find commissions in the Militia and be paid for their services, as to voluntarily take on themselves the duties of soldiers and pay dearly for the privilege as English Volunteers do.

If the patriotism of the great English nation has dwindled to the miserable considerations which the *Broad Arrow* asserts, we are sorry for the prospects of the country, and do not wonder that they should entrust their military administration to Calico

Field Marshals like Cardwell, but it is just possible that in its extreme zeal for army reorganization, its contempt for civilian soldiers, and its complacency at the abolition of purchase, that able journal may in this case have overshot the mark. If we know anything of the English people we are satisfied that thirty-nine years of Manchester domination has not succeeded in grinding all patriotic feeling out of their minds, nor stifled the military spirit which has made Great Britain what it is, and we believe that with all the Radical doctoring of its expensive but very small military force, it will be found that on Volunteers alone the country must rely for home defence. Even in an economical point of view, how long can England afford to pay some sixteen millions sterling annually for what the Whig-Radicals are pleased to call an army, but which, in point of numbers, would make two respectable divisions. It is laughable to read of Cardwell's eighty-eight thousand men on paper when France numbers 320,000 and Germany 540,000 as peace establishments. If anything could open people's eyes it would be the result of the autumn campaign; the exhibition on that occasion was the most ridiculous on record, 22,000 regular soldiers were collected, after six months hard labor, and even then the Control failed. Of what use, in the face of such an exhibition, is the abuse of the Volunteer contingent; instead of speaking slightly of the members of the force the *Broad Arrow* should have enquired whether Cardwell could have provided for another man; we are satisfied he could not, and if the people of England do not see that their interests lie not in reducing their regular army to the condition of French conscripts, but in developing the Volunteer spirit, we sincerely pity them. In writing of these matters our English contemporaries will remember we do so from experience. We have an army three times as large, in proportion to our population, as that of Great Britain, and when we claim that for all purposes of defence it is quite as effective, we indulge in no boast; it costs us less than a fortieth part of what the regular troops costs the British people. There can be no doubt that in the circumstances of the two countries there are contingencies which require different modes of treatment, but after every provision has been made there is nothing to prevent a force of 600,000 men being available in Great Britain and Ireland drawn wholly from their own people by voluntary service and costing the state no more than its very expensive and inefficient army now costs, and neither need the industries of the people be interfered with. But in order to achieve this it will not do to sneer down the Volunteer force, choke their energies with bureaucratic red tap, or stifle them with the official insolence and neglect of great commanders like Cardwell. The *Broad Arrow* viewing the whole situation from a professional stand point, is quite satisfied "there is nothing like leather," and