

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

Is published EVERY MONDAY MORNING, at OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by GEORGE MOSS, Proprietor.
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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 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.

CLUBS! CLUBS! CLUBS!

For the purpose of extending an advantage to the Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Force, we have decided to send "THE REVIEW" to BATTALION and COMPANY CLUBS of TEN and UPWARDS at the rate of \$1.50 per annum for each copy.

Any Non-Commissioned Officer or Private sending us 15 names at the above rate, will receive a copy of "THE REVIEW" for one year, free of charge.

"THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW OFFICE,"
Ottawa, August 1st, 1867.



The Volunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 1867.

WHAT WE SHOULD DO.

It is a fact well known to all persons at all acquainted with the history of nations, that the greatest safeguard to the liberty of a people, is the possession and cultivation of that spirit of self-reliant courage, which being born in times of danger and difficulty, when man's souls are tried in the fiery ordeal of revolution, invasion, or conquest, is kept alive by a cultivation of those arts which tend to make a people brave, hardy and independent. War with its attendant miseries is opposed to the very spirit and teaching of Christianity, and subversive of that civilization of which we are so proud. But as that Christianity is not practised in its purity, nor that civilization yet brought to perfection, we are forced by the construction of society, and the clashing interests of nations, to live in a state which we are convinced is abnormal to our nature; yet, for the good of those who will succeed us, and who have a right to received from us the unimpaired heritage of Freedom as we

have received it, we are compelled, and it is our most sacred trust and duty, to guard well and faithfully that heritage, and build such barriers about it, as will show we feel its greatness and appreciate its value. In a country like ours, with a sparse population, scattered over a great extent of territory, and engaged in the daily struggle of life, and those pursuits necessitated by their condition in a youthful nation containing many elements of discord, it is most desirable that we should keep alive the spirit "of our fathers," and while we rise higher and higher in the scale of nations, that firm self-conscious power will grow with us, and become inherent in our constitution as a people, and never be extinguished as long as our mountains stand, as will that spirit, the proudest monument of our labors, and the grandest inheritance ever bequeathed to a nation. It is very often the case, where a whole people are engaged in the various pursuits of ordinary life, and where there is no class who have the education and leisure to bestow upon political science that careful study it requires, that principles like what we have mentioned are lost sight of, or only revived by spasmodic efforts which can never place on a sufficiently firm foundation the great corner stone of Liberty, which should rest upon a true knowledge of our rights and duties, our relations to each other, and our position in the great family of nations. For the proper development of this feeling, it is incumbent upon every person who has the welfare of his country at heart, to do all that lies in his power to cherish, strengthen, and elevate the spirit of nationality, that should the day ever come when our independence will be threatened, we shall be able to rely on a free, united, and loyal people. Such have never yet been conquered or overthrown. Whenever we read of a people who have failed in the struggle for freedom, we inevitably find that their want of success was invariably caused by their own distrust, or by some inherent fault, which born of some error of the past, grew into the great element of their destruction. For the purpose then of creating one broad nationality throughout our young and glorious country, by welding, as it were, all others into it; we should each and all exert ourselves to establish our national institutions in a manner that will embrace all sections of our people, and bestow upon all classes of the community the benefit arising therefrom. One of the first and most important of these institutions is the Volunteer force. As a nation we are too poor, our resources too limited, and our population too small to maintain a regular force sufficient to defend our country in case of war; therefore must we rely upon the people themselves, upon that spirit, the cultivation of which it is now our duty to advocate and urge. The necessity for this is well exemplified by our neighbors in the adjoining Republic, who, when the civil war broke out, were totally unprepared,

alike on both sides, to grapple with the difficulties that beset them; and it was not till after the most heinous blundering and terrible sacrifice of life, that they were brought to a knowledge of their true situation. That a like fate may not be ours when the time of trial comes, it behooves us to be prepared, and the feeling which will be thus roused and elevated, will be one of the best guarantees of our stability and happiness. We must not forget that the welfare of generations yet unborn depends in a great measure upon our wisdom in establishing our institutions, and destroying as far as possible the chances of discord. It is the bounden duty then of every citizen of the Dominion to support the Volunteers by his presence, example, and influence; from this the healthy, loyal, and emulative spirit of our people will find its true support; and we may in time defy any extraneous power to subvert our liberties or destroy our institutions; and by this means we will found a nation of which its sons may be proud, and which will be a worthy off-spring of the great and glorious Motherland.

At this season of the year, little news need be looked for from our provincial military circles—so many other duties imperatively demanding the time and attention of the yeomen who compose the bulk of our Volunteer Force. Banded together for defence, and for defence alone, our people have cheerfully borne the burden which military training has imposed upon them; but among the numbers who at our country's call stood forth to do battle for the right, there are few, if any, who do not gladly lay by the sword and grasp the reaping hook. Prepared to meet any and every foe that may attack us; ready to face each and all of the dangers of the soldier life, and proud of his new profession of arms, none prays more devoutly for the peaceful prosperity of Canada than her Volunteers do. From every quarter of the country we rejoice to hear that the present year promises to be one of unusual prosperity for our farmers, and we are thankful that the war cloud which hovered over our last "harvest home," casts no gloom upon this. We cannot forget, however, that it was the prompt way in which the threatened invasion was met that averted it, and we have learnt that if we would use the reaping hook in security, we must keep the sword sharp and fit for action. Heaven grant that we may never need to use it; but that being at peace and good will with all men, our country may afford to its own sons, and those who seek it from other lands—a home where they can in peaceful security live prosperously, and where their honest toil will meet a fit recompense.