

Quarterly Review sums up the whole of the situation by the following extract from the *London Times* of November 10, 1872.

"If the Russians have been obliged to use force, and if the use of force has ended in the occupation of more or less of the hostile territory, this ought not to surprise Englishmen, in whose dealings with Asiatics, precisely the same phenomenon has appeared. We began with a fort at Madras, and a factory on the Hooghley. Now, we rule 200,000,000 of human beings, yet there never was a time when conquest was made for its own sake; there never was a time when India directors and their servants, when Ministers and Parliament did not think we had too much. We conquered in spite of ourselves; we went spell bound to greatness; the country fell to us as of necessity. This is not now, for the Roman Empire was built up itself in this way. The *Russian Gazette* alleges that the dominion over the wild regions of Central Asia is falling to Russia after this manner without any deliberate seeking on her part. The conclusion of course is that a tendency so deep and strong, and so independent of human will must be full of benefits for the world!!! *Manifest destiny* appears here, as in the conflict between the Anglo Americans and the Mexicans or the Indians, and it is certainly as good an achievement to restore an old world as to conquer a new."

So the Russian advances on India is to be one of those grand achievements of *manifest destiny* of which the Whig Radicals are the apostles and active agents, and the *Times*, their great organ; it is true those oracular utterances are deprived of whatever little value they might have by the fact, that the *Times* is itself totally ignorant of the policy or motives of Russia, as the *British Quarterly Review* points out, but as a representative journal it is stated to be the means of securing for the Foreign Office "some insulting notes for stupidities written in Printing House Square."

It is suggestive of the means by which England acquired India that she should lose it by the advance of a power who has made the augmentation of Territory, a steady policy, and is not liable to be turned aside by the votes of a lot of peddlers, and the policy of *backing down* concealed under both articles, will hasten that *denouement*.

We have to return our thanks to Lieut. Colonel Fletcher, C.M.G., for the report of the annual meeting of the Frontier Rifle Association.

Our correspondent on cavalry equipment, is informed that the Militia Department have in store, full outfit in clothing, saddlery and arms for cavalry, which can be had on requisition through the Brigade Major of District.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

EDUCATION IN THE RANKS.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—Permit a few light remarks upon a subject—which Baron Stoffel's criticism—as given in the REVIEW—have evoked, to find space in the too abbreviated pages of your journal.

I shall have no hesitation in following suit by imitating the Baron in his ingenious *brusquerie*, and at once joining issue with him upon the etiology which imputes Prussian success to Russian erudition. But were the *soi disant* intellectuality indisputable, its stimulating effect upon the morale of armies, would still remain as ambiguous as the elevated standard claimed for it, in that of Prussia's. It is said posterity will marvel at the education mania of the present. In the mean time I am perplexed to know wherein, or what constitutes the superiority of the educated soldier—as a mere combatant—over the average common sense of his comrade? Observe the two men in action, each probably emulous of the other, and taking stride for stride, delivering shot for shot, with equal coolness and dexterity. In camp the educated man might enjoy Caesar's commentaries in the original, the other, it may be, is content to cheer his Bivouac with the begrimed fragment of an old ballad. All this nauseous harping upon the assumed acumen indispensable to the modern soldier, is simply absurd, and from which the experienced one turns with contempt. Surely it needs no cultivated perception to perceive the fearful impact of missiles. Nor is it necessary to be perfectly *au fait* in Acoustics to hear and heed the ominous noise with which projectiles admonish their victims though—like Jack's stand from under—generally too late. Stupidity itself must, in the intimidating hustle, hum, and whirl of their flight, know that these dread messengers of fate are on the wing.

Under such conditions Tacticians may feel assured safety evolutions will become easy of acquisition to the most stolid, and that the very *elite* of Prussia's alumni could not avoid or brave, the inevitable in action, with more intelligence or recollection than could the man of average common sense. Fearing to become discursively obtrusive in my comments and on your space,

I remain, dear sir, yours &c.,

SABREUR.

New Hamburg, 12th Jan., 1873.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly inform me as to whether the Government makes the usual grant to efficient Volunteer Regimen-

tal Bands as heretofore; and if so, does the Commanding Officer of each Battalion continue to receive the same?

Yours &c.,

INQUIRER.

The allowance for Regimental Bands is still in existence, but is only paid to efficient bands.—Ed. Vol. Rev.

The Annual Target Practice of the Markham Volunteer Company, No. 6 12th York Rangers, came off at Headquarters on Saturday, 1st inst., under command of Capt. Reesor. The day was cold and windy, but there was exceedingly good shooting. The company turned out well and every man enjoyed himself.—Com.

FRONTIER RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The Eleventh Annual meeting of this association was held at Franklin Centre, County of Huntingdon, Quebec, on the 11th February. There was a large attendance of members. The 50th and 51st Battalions and Huntingdon Cavalry were well represented.

Lieut.-Colonel Fletcher, President, in the chair, the efficient Secretary, Lieut.-Colonel McEachern, was at his post as usual. After the minutes of last meeting were read and approved, the treasurer's report was read showing the receipts for the year were \$516.94, and disbursements, \$434.56; leaving a balance on hand of \$83.38. The election of officers then took place, the following were elected:

PRESIDENT.—Lieut. Colonel Fletcher, C. M. G.

VICE PRESIDENTS.—Lieut.-Colonels Rogers and Ried; Majors McNaughton, Lucas, and Mr. Fee, Dr. Sheriff; Captains, Breadner and Johnson, Revd. Wm. Masson.

SECRETARY-TREASURER.—Lieut. Col. McEachern, C. M. G.

COUNCIL.—The office bearers, and Captains of Companies belonging to the Association. The Firing Range and Finance Committees were appointed, and are composed of the same members as last year.

A discussion took place as to where the next Annual Matches would be held; finally Havelock was chosen. The time for the matches was left to be decided by the President and Secretary, with the understanding, that the latter part of June would be preferred, if it did not interfere with the Annual Drill.

The continuous success of the Frontier Association is gratifying to those friends and supporters who have so well sustained its operations since its formation. The Association has entered upon its eleventh year with brighter prospects than ever. The next annual matches bid fair to exceed in interest and value of prizes, any of the prize meetings yet held on the Frontier. The Association is affiliated with the Dominion, and Quebec Provincial Rifle Associations, and will send some of its crack shots to compete at Ottawa for a place on the next Team for Wimbledon.