

## THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

VOLUME IV.

1870.

ON account of the liberal patronage extended to the REVIEW since its establishment we have determined to add fresh features of interest to the forthcoming Volume so as to make it every way worthy of the support of the Volunteers of the Dominion.

To new subscribers for 1870 the paper will be sent free for the remainder of the present year.

On account of the great increase of our circulation we have been compelled to adopt the CASH IN ADVANCE principle. Therefore, from and after the 1st of January next the names of all subscribers who do not renew their subscription will be removed from the list. The reason for this will be obvious to our friends, as it will be readily understood that a paper having so extended a circulation must be paid for in advance, it being impossible to employ agents to visit all the points to which it is mailed.

## CLUBS! CLUBS!!

CLUBS of Five and upwards will be supplied at \$1.50 per annum for each copy.

CLUBS of Ten at the same rate, the sender of the names to receive one copy free for the year.

No Volunteer officer can be well posted concerning the condition, movements, and prospects of the Force unless he receives the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

We number amongst our Correspondents and Contributors some of the ablest writers on military subjects in America.

Full and reliable reports of RIFLE MATCHES, INSPECTIONS, and other matters connected with the Force appear regularly in our Columns. Also original historical reviews of America, and especially Canadian wars.

## AGENTS.

Liberal terms will be offered to Adjutants, Instructors, and others who act as agents for us in their several corps. The only authorized agents for the REVIEW at present are

LT.-COL. R. LOVELACE, for the Province of Quebec.

MR. ROGER HUNTER, for New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

REMITTANCES should be addressed to DAWSON KERR, Proprietor VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

## THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

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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 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.

DAWSON KERR, PROPRIETOR.  
CARROLL RYAN, EDITOR.



## The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1869.

—We beg leave to inform our subscribers in the Province of Ontario, that LT.-COL. LOVELACE is the only authorised Agent of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, to whom subscriptions will be paid, and his receipt will be binding on us. COL. LOVELACE is an officer of considerable experience, and we trust that the officers of the Force in the West will give him the same fraternal greeting as their brethren in the East have done.

It is gradually becoming apparent that the literary genius of Canada is gravitating towards the capital, and the whilom shanty village on the banks of the rushing Ottawa, is fast becoming the centre of intellectual as well as political vitality. One of the best indications of this fact is to be found in an unpretending announcement which lately appeared in the columns of one of our city dailies stating the foundation of a Literary Club in Ottawa, and we have only to quote the names of a few present on the occasion to give our readers an idea of the strength of the institution:—Charles Sangster, Carroll Ryan, Henry J. Morgan, Rev. E. McD. Dawson, Wm. McKay Wright, G. H. Macaulay, Benjamin Sulte, J. S. Bourinot, Mr. Gane, Mr. Wheeler, Hon. J. Howe, Hon. Col. Gray, Mr. Christie, these and others whose names do not occur to us at present, take an active interest in the Club, the avowed object of which is to foster native literature and give literary men visiting the capital an opportunity of meeting kindred spirits in rooms adapted for the purpose. This Club, as we understand it, is purely instituted for literary men and lovers of literature who will find therein a pleasing companionship with minds bent upon the exaltation of native talent. We wish them every success and will chronicle their transactions with pleasure. It is incumbent upon us to support native talent, therefore, let it not be said of us that we gave no honor to a prophet in our own country.

THE report of the Secretary of the navy of the United States lately published contains a great deal of matter of interest. We extract a few portions of it. He says:—

"When my immediate predecessor came into office, on the 9th day of March last, the Navy of the United States consisted of 203 vessels of all classes, and in every condition.

"These measured 183,442 tons, and were calculated to carry, when in commission, 1,366 guns, exclusive of howitzers.

"Of these ships 151 were wooden, and 52 were iron-clad or monitors.

"Of the wooden ships 32 were sailing vessels, 53 were steamers, with some auxiliary sail-power; 44 were steamers, without any efficient sail-power, and 22 were without sail-power of any kind.

"The iron-clads are all steamers, relying wholly on steam under all circumstances.

"Of all these classes only 43 vessels, including store-ships, mounting 356 guns of every calibre, were attached to fleets or returning therefrom. Six more, mounting 36 guns, were in commission for special service; and six others at the various stations as receiving-ships. These, together with 14 tugs and small vessels, attached to the various navy-yards and stations, constituted the whole force of the Navy at that time effective for immediate service. It has since been found necessary to offer for sale, on foreign stations, three of these vessels, which were condemned as unfit for service and unsafe to send home: and 25 more of them have been ordered home to the various navy-yards for repair and alteration, or sale. But one ship, the *Juniata*, at Philadelphia, was under repair at the time of the coming in of the present Administration. The remainder of the Navy not in commission, consisted of:

"First: Forty-six iron-clads and monitors of every class, laid up at various stations, none of which could be got ready for service without thorough overhauling and expensive repairs to hulls, turrets and machinery, 32 of which had been condemned and ordered to be sold, as not adapted to our service; 26 of them never having been in commission.

"Second: Twenty-two vessels of every class yet on the stocks, and on which work had been suspended.

"Third: Sixty-six vessels laid up in ordinary, or unfit for active service in the future."

This gives a fair idea of the strength of the United States Navy before they began to build the fleets of which we hear so much and so often.

Further on we learn that:—

"To restore our small force to an effective condition, and to make it available in the best manner in its large and growing field of operations, in the shortest possible time, with the material at hand, and without addition to the national expenses, was the first duty which presented itself; and to its accomplishment all the energies of the department have been bent."

"To meet these difficulties, work was renewed vigorously at all the navy-yards, and as fast as possible our ships in ordinary were put in condition for service. Those in commission have undergone the same process as fast as they could be spared from their stations."

It is not doubted that any war with a foreign enemy must be a maritime one. The American people are accustomed to success on the ocean; and they would have little cause, and less inclination, to forgive a policy which, at the first sign of a foreign war, sent our Navy hurrying ignominiously to our shores. Yet we have not, at this time, on any foreign station, a squadron whose combined forces would avail for a day against the powerful sea-going iron-clads which both France and England have on the same stations. These are not agreeable facts to contemplate, or to state, but, after giving the subject much investigation and reflection, I have felt it to be my duty to state the truth frankly, through you, to the representatives of the people, that they may determine how much and how prompt action the situation requires.