

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

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TO CORRESPONDENTS:

All Communications regarding the Militia or
Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Depart-
ment, 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 com-
munications. 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 in-
formation of this kind as early as possible, so that
may reach us in time for publication.

OUR AGENT.

We beg to notify our numerous friends and sub-
scribers that Mr. J. J. BELL is authorised to act as
General Travelling Agent for THE VOLUNTEER
REVIEW; to receive subscriptions and transact
any other business connected with the paper.



The Volunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA MONDAY, MAY 25, 1868.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

The return of the anniversary of the birth
of our beloved Queen is an occasion which
the people of these truly loyal Provinces
always gladly take advantage of to express
their attachment to the Crown and institu-
tions of the mother land. But, perhaps,
for many years this honored anniversary
has not come to us under circumstances so
peculiarly suggestive as the present. Happi-
ly it has come when the Empire is at
peace with all the world; and when a
magnanimous war has just been brought to
a most triumphant issue. The reign of
Queen Victoria, which embraces a period
of time unexampled in the history of the
arts of progression, has been fruitful in pro-
moting the physical as well as the intellec-
tual advancement of the human race; for
when we consider the condition of the world
when the girl queen was called to rule over
many millions of people of conflicting inter-
ests and divergent character, and compare
it with the present, how wonderful is the
difference, and how more than suggestive
is the history of that time to the contem-
plative mind. After the terrible wars

which had devastated Europe and America,
the nations lay, as it were, exhausted, and
a long period of repose naturally follow-
ed, in which the arts of peace triumphing
over those of war, gave men an opportunity
of learning in a better school, and of acquir-
ing a higher knowledge than that which
could be acquired in the brutalizing fields
of national strife. For this period Queen
Victoria was eminently adapted, for, by the
bright and pure example which she gave
from the steps of the greatest throne in the
world, and which spread its influence, like
the morning star, to the furthest parts
of the earth, the moral genius of the age
was controlled and elevated. From her
society took its tone, and the loose princi-
ples and lax morality of the Georgian era
were overcome, and, in their stead, arose a
noble spirit of philanthropy and lofty sense
of religion. Thus, if the reign of Queen
Victoria has been fruitful in improving the
arts of civilization and advancing humanity
on the path of progress, that improvement
and that advancement are, doubtless, in a
great measure, owing to the impetus towards
better things given by the character and
example of the Sovereign of Great Britain.
This anniversary, which recalls to every
mind some pleasing association of the past,
conveys a moral which cannot be lightly
forgotten; and, when we think of that
Royal Lady to whom we are as much bound
by ties of affection as of loyalty, and to
whom we willingly render no conditional
allegiance, and think of the circumstances
which have lately transpired, we are made
painfully conscious of much that we would
willingly forget. But it is not in this place
that we would refer to these things, being
well convinced that in the end justice will
be equally meted out to all.

To-day, with one voice, the people of this
wide Dominion, in the full enjoyment of
life and liberty, join in the prayer which we
hope will be repeated for many years to
come, with the same truth and fervency as
now, "God save the Queen."

THE HUDSON BAY TERRITORY.

At a time when the Hon. Joseph Howe
and his brother malcontents from Nova
Scotia are querulously endeavoring to
separate their native Province from the
great Dominion of the North, which may be
well considered the Ursa Major of America,
of which it is one of the outlying paws, we
are informed that the Hudson Bay Territory
is about being ceded to the Crown, prepara-
tory to its being turned over to Canada.
This event, although coming later than it
should, is, nevertheless, highly satisfactory,
for it is time that all such obstacles to the
advancement of our country should be
removed; and the vast sources of wealth
and power which naturally belong to it
opened up to colonization and enterprise.
British America, since the American Revolu-

tion, has been unfortunate as supplying a
field for needy monopolists who sought their
own aggrandizement to the detriment of the
country, and, to the present hour, we are
laboring under the disadvantages of the
vicious systems established in the early days
of the Colony of Canada; and some of the
gravest questions with which our statesmen
have to deal are those which have taken
their rise therefrom. As the formation of the
Dominion of Canada, as it was established on
the first of last July, contemplated an union
of the whole of British North America under
one system of Government, the cession of
the Hudson Bay Territory is the necessary
prelude to the extension of the Dominion to
the Pacific. Apart from this view of the
subject, it is a necessity that our Govern-
ment should obtain control over those set-
tlements which are, in fact, out-lying por-
tions of the Dominion. As, for instance,
that known as the Red River country, the
inhabitants of which have, for some time
shown their impatience under the anomalous
rule of the Hudson Bay Company, which,
being powerless to govern them
properly, was nevertheless, sufficiently
strong to retard their advancement. A
short time ago the newspapers contained an
account of a colony somewhere in the Far
West, setting up "on its own hook," ap-
pointing a Governor and other officials,
acts to which they were compelled by the
necessities of their position. Surely then
it is time that this great country should be
properly opened up to civilization, and the
tide of emigration which annually flows
through our country into the United States,
turned into this extensive and fruitful
region, and thus made a source of power,
not only to the Dominion but to the Empire.

There can be no doubt that in undertaking
the responsibility of colonizing and govern-
ing this vast territory many grave difficul-
ties have to be encountered, not the least of
which is the cost, and it can hardly be said
that we are in a position financially to open
communications with the West without the
assistance of England. But, it is equally
true that as the country is opened up the
sources of wealth will increase, and though
the burthens may be somewhat heavy at
first there can be no doubt but in a very
few years the outlay will be repaid a thou-
sand-fold.

Rumors of another Fenian invasion have
been rife during the week, and, from all we
can learn, it is just possible that we will be
annoyed by a repetition of the foolish and
criminal attempts of 1866. The present
unsettled state of the executive power in
the United States doubtless offers an excel-
lent opportunity for a Fenian dash upon
Canada, but if the authorities there are not
sufficiently strong to restrain the filibusters
they will find that, as far as the people of
the Dominion are concerned, we are strong
enough to repel, and possess sufficient