

£31 10s. sterling (i.e. the gun alone), case and fitting extra. Mr. Gibbs, the maker of the Metford rifle, however, furnishes a good serviceable rifle, perfectly plain but guaranteed to shoot equal to the best, for 15 guineas. I have shot both the finest and the cheapest description of the Metford and can detect no difference in their performance. Of course the 30 guinea gun is magnificent in its finish and as fine work as can be made, and much pleasanter to use than the cheap one, but both shoot equally well. The Victoria Rifle Club of Hamilton have imported 15 of the cheaper Metfords this spring, the Montreal Club 3, and 6 of the first iss, and I believe the Brockville club expect 5 more. Mr. Gibbs' address is No. 29, Corn Street, Bristol, England, and I can confidently recommend him to any one as one of the best workmen in the world at the present time. His shot guns are considered to be the best both in quality of work and performance of any market out of London, and quite up to the standard of the most crack London makers whose names are household words. His rifles have only been in use four or five years and have completely extinguished the old system of heavy grooving such as the Whitworth. If your correspondent wants a good rifle I would recommend him to write direct to any of the four makers whose names I have given and get full particulars from them. Every rifleman has a preference for some gun or other and certainly mine is for the Metford.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

JAS. ESDAIR.

Secy. Montreal Rifle Club.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR:—In your issue of this week you give a copy of Col. Gilmour's address to the Queen's Own Rifles, taken from the *Globe* of this city, which states that "the regiment mustered about 100 strong" while the muster was between 300 and 400. Considerable dissatisfaction is felt among the Volunteers here at the way they are treated by the "powers that be" at Ottawa. Since the Drill Shed here collapsed last winter the Queen's Own and 10th Royals have had to march out every week through all weather and muster in the dark.

This week the officers of the two regiments to have made arrangements to have the ruins of the drill shed listed, but it is at their own expense. The clothing of the Queen's Own is something disgraceful, one company has about 20 men who have no uniform and the other companies are nearly as bad, some of the men having only tunics and forage caps, and others only tunics; I think if one thing looks worse than another it is to see men on parade with Gillian's trousers and hat and military tunic or vice versa. We had an inspection of clothing in January last and were then promised new great coats and whatever new

clothing we required in a few weeks, and now months have passed and the clothing seems as near as it did two years ago.

In October last H.R.H. Prince Arthur visited this city and among other volunteers the Queen's Own turned out, and up to this date we have never received our pay excepting 50cts. (on account we were told.) If the Queen's Own did grumble a little is it to be wondered at when things are in such a discouraging state.

Apologizing for taking up so much of your valuable paper.

I am, yours, &c.,

Toronto, May 5th, 1870. TORONTO.

THE NORTH-WEST.

BILL OF RIGHTS.

The following is the official Bill of Rights which the Delegates from Red River brought to Ottawa, and have submitted to the Government:—

"LIST OF RIGHTS."

1. That in view of the present exceptional position of the North-West, duties upon goods imported into the country, shall continue as at present (except in the case of spirituous liquors) for three years, and for such further time as may elapse until there be uninterrupted railroad communication between Red River Settlement and St. Paul, and also steam communication between Red River Settlement and Lake Superior.

2. As long as this country remains a Territory in the Dominion of Canada, there shall be no direct taxation, except such as may be imposed by the Local Legislature for municipal or other local purposes.

3. During the time this country remains a Territory of the Dominion of Canada, all military, civil and other expenses in connection with the general government of the country—or that have hitherto been borne by the public funds of the Settlement, beyond the receipt of the above mentioned duties—shall be met by the Dominion of Canada.

4. That while the burden of public expense in this country is borne by Canada the country be governed under a Lieutenant Governor from Canada, and a Legislature, three members of whom being heads of departments of the Government, shall be nominated by the Governor General of Canada.

5. That after the expiration of this exceptional period, the country shall be governed, as regards its local affairs, as the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec are now governed, by a legislature elected by the people, and a Ministry, responsible to it, under a Lieutenant Governor appointed by the Governor General of Canada.

6. That there shall be no interference by the Dominion Parliament in the Local affairs of the Territory other than is allowed in any of the Provinces in the Confederation, and that this territory shall have and enjoy in all respects, the same privileges, advantages and aids in meeting the public expenses of this territory, as the Confederated Provinces have and enjoy.

7. That while the Northwest remains a territory, the Legislature have a right to pass all laws local to the territory, over the veto of the Lieutenant Governor, by a two-third vote.

8. A Homestead and Pre-emption Law.

9. That while the Northwest remains a territory, the sum of \$25,000 (twenty-five

thousand dollars) a year be appropriated for schools, roads and bridges.

10. That all public buildings be at the cost of the Dominion treasury.

11. That there shall be guaranteed uninterrupted steam communication to Lake Superior within five years, and also the establishment by rail of a connection with the American Railway, as soon as it reaches the International line.

12. That the English and French languages be common in the legislature and Courts, and that all public documents and acts of the Legislature be published in both languages.

13. That the Judge of the Supreme Court speak the French and English languages.

14. That treaties be concluded between the Dominion and the several Indian tribes of the country, as soon as possible.

15. That until the population of the country entitles us to more, we have four representatives in the Canadian Parliament—one in the Senate and three in the Legislative Assembly.

16. That all properties, rights and privileges, as hitherto enjoyed by us, be respected and the recognition and arrangement of local customs, usages and privileges be made under the control of the Local Legislature.

17. That the local Legislature of this Territory have full control of all public land inside a circumference, having upper Fort Garry as the centre, and that the radii of this circumference, be the number of miles that the American line is distant from Fort Garry.

18. That every man in the country, (except uncivilized and unsettled Indians) who has attained the age of twenty-one years, and every British subject, a stranger to this territory, who has resided three years in the country and is a householder, shall have a right to vote at the election of a member to serve in the legislature of the country and in the Dominion Parliament; and every foreign subject who has resided the same length of time in the country and is a householder, shall have the same right to vote on condition of his taking the oath of allegiance—it being understood that this article be subject to amendment exclusively by the local legislature.

19. That the North West Territory shall never be held liable for any portion of the £300,000 paid to the Hudson Bay Company or for any portion of the public debt of Canada, as it stands at the time of our entering the Confederation; and if, hereafter, we be called upon to assume our share of the said public debt, we consent only on condition that we first be allowed the amount for which we shall be held liable.

THE GUNBOATS ON THEIR BEATS.—The gunboat *Rescue* left Kingston on Friday night, 22nd inst., for Prescott, to patrol the St. Lawrence between Kingston and Prescott. The *Prince Alfred* arrived at Sarnia on Friday afternoon, 22nd. Her force consists of 60 men and 4 officers, and is armed with two Armstrong guns, two brass howitzers, and one pivot gun.

THE PRINCE ALFRED.—A correspondent on board the *Prince Alfred*, informs us that the boat arrived safely at Sarnia at 12 o'clock on Friday evening last, having encountered a good deal of ice in the lake and also the river; steam had to be kept up all night on account of the ice. Reports from below were that the St. Clair flats were all covered with ice. Some of the volunteer companies there were disbanded after the gunboat arrived.