

ed together at other times by the Executive.

TERMS OF ANNEXATION.

President Baez soon satisfied General Babcock of his earnest desire for annexation. He stated to him in general terms the conditions on which annexation would probably be accepted, the leading feature of which was that the republic could probably secure annexation as a territory. A memorandum of terms was then drawn up as a basis on which the Dominicans would negotiate for annexation, and it was placed in General Babcock's hands to be laid before the President and Secretary of State, an evidence of sincerity and good faith. Baez and his associates agreed to be bound by the terms, in case the negotiations were renewed, either by the present or any other commissioner. One of the requests made by Baez was, that a sum of money should be advanced to him and likewise a quantity of munitions and arms, so that he might have funds and force to carry out his part of the project. This was subsequently granted, as will be seen.

A SECOND MISSION.

Early in November, General Babcock was ordered to the island on a second mission, and he took with him not only the treaty but \$150,000 in gold from the appropriation made for Mr. Seward for the same purpose at the request of the late Thaddeus Stevens nearly three years ago, and a considerable quantity of arms and munitions, with instructions to secure a lease of Samana Bay as security for these advances. This was effected without any difficulty. The annexation treaty was at once submitted, and no material changes were insisted on, save such as were entirely within the discretionary power of General Babcock to make. One of the provisions which has not been alluded to is that the Baez Government expressly stipulates the sum of \$1,500,000, to be received from this government, shall be expended in the liquidation of the bonded debt of the republic, which is stated at about \$1,200,000.

WHY THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE KEPT SECRET.

It was found to be necessary to keep the annexation negotiations a profound secret, and in this both sides were successful beyond expectation. The principal reason for this is that the Dominicans were under a contract with certain parties in England for a loan of 420,000l. sterling at a commission of thirty per cent.; 50,000l. had been delivered on this contract, and the time for the delivery of the whole expired on the 31st of December, 1869. News of the success of this negotiation in England would have caused the prompt subscription of the entire loan, but no more money had been received on the contract up to the 6th of December, and it is now altogether probable that the contract expired without further delivery. To guard against contingencies, however, Baez entered into an agreement that in case any of the money was proffered within the specified time he would hold it subject to the order of the United States for the repayment of the loan.

RATIFICATION OF THE SAMANA TREATY.

The Samana treaty was at once ratified by the Dominican Senate and its terms appeared to be thoroughly understood, not only at San Domingo City but on Samana peninsula. On the subject of annexation the people appeared to be unanimous, and there seems to be little doubt but that the vote of the citizens, when taken, will approve the treaty heartily. Among those whom General Bab-

cock consulted on this subject was Don Domingo La Roche, the leader in the church, and one of the most influential citizens of the Island—said to own fully one-seventh of its improved property. He was very strong for annexation, and from his position in the prevailing church, would command large influence for that end.

THE PEOPLE.

Both sexes on the island are noted for their strength, endurance and longevity. The population is now not over 150,000 though the Dominicans claim more. Though the government is substantially a white government, there is no distinction of caste or color. Baez's Chief of Staff, Guislermo, is a colored man, and so is the Collector of the Port of San Domingo. The Catholic Church prevails, though other denominations are tolerated. At San Domingo there has been a Methodist chapel for twenty-four years, and on Samana Bay among the blacks, there is a Methodist church of several hundred members. The people and government of San Domingo are entirely willing to become part of the United States. The bargain is not the great object with them; it is the protection of a strong government, which is to render them peaceful and prosperous.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HERE AND THERE;

OR.

THE WAY THINGS ARE DONE IN ENGLAND AND THE WAY THEY ARE NOT DONE IN CANADA.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR:—In the *Broad Arrow* for Dec. 25th an editorial says:—"It is understood that the Volunteer officers did not receive very great encouragement from Mr. Cardwell (at their interview on Tuesday at the War Office) to hope for any great increase in the Capitation Grant, &c., &c. Certain concessions as to ranges, stores and consolidation will be expected to effect the purpose of an increased grant. The Secretary of State for war only threw out suggestions, as above, for the consideration of the commissioned officers, and will call them together again in a month's time to see if they think they will be acceptable to the F. rec."

I have heard, Mr. Editor, of such an honor as this being conferred on the representative men of the Volunteer Militia of Canada. The cry of discontent and the appeal for justice has been ringing for years from both officers and men. Letters after letters, from all parts of the Dominion, have appeared in your own columns, calling the attention of the Government to the state of the Force; making such statements and accusations as would not be allowed to pass unchallenged or uninvestigated in any other country on the face of the earth. Remonstrances from all quarters have been quietly ignored, and carefully considered memorials to the Minister of Militia have been treated with silent contempt.

You have more than once acknowledged that there is no doubt as to the alleged grievances, and that there is ample grounds for all the growling, and you now propose a remedy. What is it? Instead of you de-

manding a conference between the Militia authorities and the Volunteer officers, or a Committee of Investigation, and report at the next meeting of Parliament on the working of the Militia Bill, you propose that the Volunteers should exert themselves, and send deputations to their representatives. Stuff, Mr. Editor, and I am sorry to see it in the Review. You know as well as I do that all Militia legislation must be initiated and introduced by the Government, and that individual members cannot move a peg further than asking for papers and returns, you know as well as I do that the opposition is powerful, and that the government or government party can pass or repeal just what measures they please. Sir George Cartier, the other day, in Quebec, described himself to be a kind of political, legal, commercial man, (I want "F. O." to notice he did not plume himself on his commanding military talent), and by a concentration of all his genius he has nearly accomplished his laudable scheme of killing off the Volunteers. Now, if the Government wanted to remove the prevailing discontent some steps would have been taken ere this to ascertain how much existed, but Mons. Cartier being the Government, and his pet Militia Bill being condemned, we expect and hope for nothing from the Government. So no more of your blarney, Mr. Editor, if you please, about the Minister of Militia being made a scape goat of. The Volunteers believe him and his Bill to be the cause of all their troubles, the saddle is on the right horse. Let it stay there.

Your obedient servant,

L. C.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR:—I would wish to draw the attention of the Adjutant General of Volunteers to the following.—On Tuesday, the 18th inst., the Volunteer Company at St. Hyacinthe turned out in uniform and military order for the purpose of paying honors to—whom do you think? Nothing less than a Papal Zouave returning home. This worthy arrived by train at St. Hyacinthe from Montreal and was escorted by the Volunteer company through the streets.

Now, I think this is carrying matters with too high a hand, and the sooner such buffonery is ended the better for the Volunteer movement at large. There has been too much of this idle play about Volunteering in Canada, especially in the Province of Quebec.

If I mistake not there is a Militia General Order in force prohibiting Volunteers from appearing in uniform except for drill, rifle practice or other legitimate object. Certainly there are no instructions laid down as to what compliments should have been paid to an individual as above described.

I am, Sir,

Yours, &c., &c.,

TROOPER,