

BY TELEGRAPH FROM QUEBEC.

On Saturday night we received a telegram from Quebec stating that the 8th Battalion had beaten the 30th Regt. in the Rifle Match which took place there on that day. The following are the totals:

8th Battalion.....564 points.
30th Regiment.....522 "

Total in favor of 8th Batt. 42 points.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MILITIA ACT.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

DEAR SIR,—I notice in your last issue that you speak very favorably of the Militia Bill which has lately been laid before Parliament. Now, without doubt, it proposes to make a very great improvement in the Militia proper of the country, but I submit, (and I think I express the opinion of a great many in the force) that the Volunteers have been almost ignored. The Bill, indeed, proposes that the Volunteer force shall be maintained, but that is about all. The term of service has been reduced from five to three years, and members are still allowed to leave upon giving six months notice. No provision has been made, moreover, for insuring the attendance of the men at drill, otherwise than during the eight to sixteen days annually. Now, to have an effective force, the men should enlist for five years, and be unable to leave before that time, unless for a good and sufficient cause, and further, to have the force efficient at all times, and not for a few days during the year; drill must be compulsory, say once a week. For the annual drill the officers are to have the munificent sum of fifty cents per day. This should also be amended. You, or some of your readers may have noticed a communication in the *Toronto Leader* lately, from a Volunteer officer upon the subject of compulsory weekly drill, in connection with the new Militia Bill. I am glad to have some support upon this subject, and, indeed, I have seen other communications of like import. The ideas, and in several instances the words, of the writer in question, exactly correspond with my own, as expressed in a communication which appeared about the beginning of the present volume. As may then be inferred, I am not in favor of a Volunteer force, as I think it should be looked upon as a part of every man's duty to the country to qualify himself to defend it, and this can best be attained by having one Militia force. At the same time, if the Volunteer system is to be maintained, let the men be reasonably remunerated, and rendered really effective.

ESSEX.

OTTAWA RIFLES.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—On Sunday morning the 12th inst., the men of the Ottawa Provisional Battalion of Rifles received notice that they might, if they chose, attend the funeral of the Hon. T. D. McGee at Montreal on Monday. Those who intended going were to signify it by mustering in full uniform at the Drill Shed at 3 o'clock, sharp. Shortly after

the appointed hour the roll was called and about eighty men were found present. No. 1 Company, as usual, mustering more than No. 2. The former being under the command of Captain May and Ensign Brown, the latter, under Captain MacGillivray and Lieutenant Cherry. About 4 o'clock the word "forward" being given, the column stepped off in the following order: a detachment of the Field Artillery, two companies of the Garrison Artillery, two companies of Rifles. After a short delay at the Station, all were aboard the train, receiving the good wishes of about 5,000 persons, assembled to see them off. Prescott was reached about 7 o'clock, and the men "piled in" to their grub. All went happy until they were aboard the G. T. R., when misery commenced, no sleep from jogging cars, nothing to eat, nothing to drink, no fires in the stoves, and constant delay was the order of the day, or rather night. Montreal was reached at 9 a. m., Monday when all were summoned on parade at once, under command of Captain Ross, who relieved Major Forrest, and marched to their respective stations; the Rifles were placed on the left of that crack corps, the "Victorias," who enquired when they arrived, and if they had breakfasted. The reply to the last question being in the negative, an invitation was cordially extended to the officers to dine at the Club, and to the non-commissioned officers and men, to dine at the American Hotel, after the dismissal of parade. It must here be chronicled that a friendly discussion (or perhaps something warmer) took place between the Victorias and the Prince of Wales' Rifle Regiment, as to which should have the pleasure of entertaining the Ottawaites, at the same time the Commandant at Montreal received anything but praise for not notifying them of their intended visit. Parade was dismissed at 4 p. m. The men standing in the cold wind, with great coats strapped on their backs for seven hours, and being without food for *twenty-one hours*, yet all did their duty without a murmur, only too proud to show their discipline, while they received the praises of every officer present. About 4.30 the non-commissioned officers of the Victorias, and the non-commissioned officers and men of the Ottawa Rifles sat down to a most sumptuous repast, it need scarcely be added it received every justice. At the conclusion, the senior officer thanked their guests for their patriotism and soldierlike conduct, and extended a cordial invitation to come again, in a most eloquent speech. Acting Sergeant Major Esmonde responded, by thanking them, and promised them a reception on their next visit to Ottawa which they never would forget. At 6:30 p. m., the Assembly was sounded. After the men fell in, Lieut. Col Hutton addressed them in a stirring speech, and passed a high encomium on the Ottawa Rifles. Captain May followed, by returning thanks, and proposing three cheers for the Vic-

torias, which were given, with a "tiger." Captain MacGillivray proposed the Prince of Wales' Regiment, which was heartily given, with another "tiger." The whole then marched to the Railroad Station, headed by a fife and drum band, where parting cheers were given, and embarked for more Grand Trunk miseries. They arrived here at noon on Tuesday, one and all declaring the Montrealers were jolly good fellows, and the best in the world.

Yours respectfully,
RIFLEMAN.

GOLDWIN SMITH.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,—In a recent print I read that Mr. Goldwin Smith wrote lately to the *Manchester Examiner* a letter of which the following is a passage: "Once in my life I have felt the sensation of loyalty. It was when I stood in the presence of Abraham Lincoln." The article is on Mr. Disraeli's elevation, and is not devoid of truth; but it appears to me suggestive of the query why, if his feelings of loyalty are exclusively excited by contact with a Republican President, he does not transfer his very undesirable allegiance to the Republican administration? For one not enamoured of Republican institutions, I have a tolerable high respect for the late Mr. Lincoln. In English politics I am a Liberal, in Canadian, a Conservative. In any country I am (I hope) tolerant, and have no objection to any gentleman's conscientious prediction for a Republican form of Government if, being generally "so disposed," his questionable taste directs him that way. Let Goldwin Smith betake himself to the neighboring Republic, acknowledge himself a citizen of the United States, and claim the respect which gentlemen are prepared to concede to a gentleman of a foreign nation, who is entirely *en regle* in upholding the superiority of his national institutions. But to any part or parcel in the lot or feelings of a British subject, it appears to me he has no claim. As a reader of the signs of the times, and possibilities of British power, his advocacy of the casting adrift of the Colonies, shows him in a lamentable light. Were not the covert inclination for another rule plain through all the sickly make believe philanthropy of this gentleman's school, its teaching would be the rankest cowardice. Let them believe that, in nations as in individuals, those who bid fairly for kicks will get plenty of them. It is understood that Mr. Goldwin Smith intends to take up his abode for some years in the States, with a view to the compilation of a historical work. I have no doubt but its literary merit will be considerable. I have equally little doubt that its tone will be entirely commensurate with American prejudices. Whenever it may be completed, the results will probably be so pleasant to the author—the incense of Republican favor so sweet in his nostrils—that a life long sojourn in that land of milk and honey, Bourbon, bombast and taxes, will ensue. I pray that it may, and that England may be relieved from owning a false allegiance and a degenerate son.

I am Sir,
Yours respectfully,
G. W.