CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of The Volunteer Review.

COUNTY OF GREY, January, 1867.

Sin,-As you invite discussion on the subject of militia organization, I venture to offer a few observations (if you consider them worth inserting in your journal) as to what I consider the ensiest and most economical method of getting into working order the raw levies a draft would give us.

I do not pretend to say what number of men would be necessary for the proper defence of the country, that question mainly depending, I opine, on the amount of money the country can afford to spend for that purpose, but taking a force of fifty battalions of first-class service men as the contingent of Upper Canada, I shall endeavor to show the cost and mode of working each battalion.

In the first place, the men having been mised by draft to serve a term of three years, I would "ppoint to each battalion an adjutant and assistant as drill instructor and storekeeper, both of them to be properly qualified, and resident in the county in which the battalion is raised. The adjutant should have entire control of the battalion, and be responsible for its efficiency. The first duty of the adjutant would be to divide the battalion into company limits, and to recommend for appointment as officers to cach company, where there is not a sufficiency of military cudets, (provisionally) men whom he may judge can be made officers of. In nearly every county to n there is, or shortly will be, a drill shed s'.dicient to handle a company and familier outlay would be required on inat nead; but in addition Government should erect a barrack capable of accommodating a company of 75 men. It would require to be fitted up with the usual barrack furniture, and accommodation, to contain arms for one company and clothing (which need not for drill purposes be more expensive than the militray school uniform) for the entire battalion. As the majority of the men of the battalion would be composed of the agricultural population, it is very desirable that the period of the year they can best spare from their farm work should be selected for drill, and I should take from the first November to the end of March for that purpose, obliging every company in rotation to go into barmeks during that period for a term of fifteen days, during which time they should be treated exactly as a company of regulars, and drilled by the adjutant and assistantthe officers and non-commissioned officers being further helped on by attending adjutant's class in the evenings. At the end of the fifteen days the company would return its clothing into store and be dismissed home, and succeeded by the next one on the list. The term of service being three years, I would pursue this course with the battalion for two years, at the end of which time the officers and men would have gained sufficient knowledge of their duties to justify bringing them together as a battalion; and accordingly, directly after harves, of the third year, I would bring the battalion to head-quarters, billet it on the town, and drill it as a battalion for fifteen days, at the end of which it should be inspected by the district staff officer, dismissed from further service, and the next battalion drafted. The men of the old bat-talion should for. a reserve liable to be called into service if required for another term of three years, the officers being attached to the new battalion. As the success of this plan would depend greatly upon the zeal and ability of the Adjutant; his fitness for the post should be judged of by the condition he had brought his battalion to at the end of the third year. Up to that time he should be left as untrammeled as possible. I believe most military men i

are of opinion that it takes a year to make a! soldier, but that depends mainly on the instruc-I am satisfied from practical experience laving been employed drilling for the last five years, that fifteen days consecutive drill will impart to the majority of men of this country a very fair knowledge of squad and company drill, quite sufficient, if their officers are up to battalion work, to allow them with a few days additional practice to be worked as battalions.

Many persons argue that it is necessary to bring all the men together at once in battalion. jumping to the conclusion that it is the men who require buttalion drill, whereas, comparatively speaking, they require very little beyond company drill—every battalion movement dep-nding on the knowledge of their officers, who an always acquire such knowledge by having skeleton drill amongst themselves, and the inconvenience and expense of bringing a large body of men together before they have acquired any knowledge of their drill is not counteracted by any corresponding gain, either in the shape of discipline or acquaintance with the daily routine of a soldier's life, as they can acquire a very fair knowledge of that by being brought into barracks by companies at a time.

I will now endeavor to estimate the cost of each battalion leaving out the Field Officers, who might be appointed but would not be required unless the battalion was in active ser-

	CTS.	v
750 men, 15 days pay at	25	2,849
" rations at	40	5,500
30 Co. Officers, pay for 15 d	ays	1,360
Adjutant-salary for year		1000
Assistant " "		400
750 Military School Suits at	\$5 ,	
3750-1 year's wear and t	enr	1,250
Stationery, Wood, Medical	at-	
tendance,	• • • • • •	150

Yearly cost of Battalion \$12,409

First outlay for Battalion, Batracks and Furniture\$1,300

The working cost of fifty battalions at this rate would be \$620,450 per year, with a first cost of \$56,000 for barracks and furniture.

Of course each battalion would require to have kept in store at the head-quarters of the district to which it belonged a complete equipment of arms, clothing and stores to enable it to take the field if required; but as it might be years before such stores would be in use I do not include them in the yearly cost.

Your obcd't servant.

MILITIA.

Written for The Volunteer Boviow.

MARTIAL MUSIC.

The man that bath not music in himself. Nor is not inved with concord of sweet sounds, is fit for treasons, strategeins and spoils. Let no such man be trusted."

So wrote the Bard of Avon, more than two hundred years ago, and we repeat it to-day, and affirm that every word-every single word of it is relatively and absolutely true. The man that cannot appreciate sweet music,-who does not feel his pulse to quicken-every nerve of his body to stiffen-every muscle to swell, at the strains of a good military band playing some of those thrilling oid martial airs, is either a quaker or a Fenian. He is no ordinary specimen of the genus homo. He lacks a most essential portion of common humanity-the part that softens asperities, smoothes over incqualities, blends and harmonizes incongruities of character. When we compared him to a Fenian, it was not a meaningless comparison, for if we remember correctly, that patriotic collection of cut-throats, when they crossed at Fort | volunteer.

Eric had no band with them-not a solitary instrument to herald their approach, or to proclaim the boon of liberty they were ready to confer upon Her Majesty's oppressed lieges. Were ever words of prophet more absolutely verified to the letter. The F. B's proved that they were fit for " treasons, strategoms and spoils" (especially the latter) to the entire satisfaction of every farmer between Ridgeway and Fort Eric, . d to quite a sufficient extent to triumphantly establish the correctness of our parallel. The phenologists will tell us that much can be learned of a man's character from the shape and size of his hands and feet, and his tread and gait in walking, but we assert, and we think few save the unhappy class itself will dispute us in our assertion, that quite as much can be judged of the character of a man by ascertaining the amount of his taste for music. If he has no ear and cannot, to save his head, tell when the band is playing " God Save the Queen" or " Paddy would y' Now," we maintain he is not a responsible being, and ought not to be trusted with even the office of pound-keeper, and should be forever incapacitated from shouldering a Saider-Enfield. Music is a part of our "spark of immortality." Harmony within implies congeniality and rationality without. It is the keystone of the arch, and the cable which connects us with another world.

But what we wished more particularly to speak on the subject of music, was to remark how badly the luck of good, bands is felt by the Volunteer force of the country generally. Of course in large citles like Toronto, Hamilton, London and Montreil, there is less cause for complaint, but in many of the County Battalions the absence of a good band is severely felt and lamented. There are always men enough to be found in the five or six hundred composing a battálion who play upon various instruments. or who possess sufficient musical taste and ability to speedily acquire very telerable proficiency, with comparatively little instruction, to form a regimental band on a small scale, The difficulty, however, does not consist in the dearth of musicians but in the costliness and trouble in procuring suitable musical instruments. If by any chance there is a local or Mage band near the head-quarters of a battalion, of course, their services are usually called in , but the absence of uniform for these nondescripts; their limited knowledge of mar-tial and military music; the cost of employing them, are facts too well known to officers who are unfortunate enough to hold commands beyand the suburbs of our large cities. The expenses in connection with the employment of these bands usually come out of their pockets equally in the case of hiring or of forming a band. For in the one case they must be paid, in the other the cost of instruments, music and instruction must be met. Now, this is not as it should be, and we trust that some means will be discovered of meeting and obviating this difficulty, either by the civilians and wealthy in the several loop cless subscribing liberally to assist in defraying the outlay in these cases or by the Government making some provision for granting some sum to each battalion for the support of a good and efficient military band. No one appreciates so thoroughly as the soldier the value of a genuine soul-stirring march or quickstop. It relieves the tedium of many a drill and parade and is one of the greatest in ducoments that can be offered to young men to