

American Government and people respecting their international duties are as peculiar as their institutions. But while the latter merely concern themselves, and are after all only of local application—there are other parties affected by the former. In the discharge of what they choose to call neutrality they have prevented British vessels passing through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal, at the same time if their own newspapers, common report and well authenticated information is to be believed they are encouraging a band of brigands organized in their territories to invade a portion of the possessions of Great Britain on this continent, and taking no measures to prevent the aggression. It is within the power of the Dominion of Canada to retaliate by prohibiting the passage of American vessels through our canals and that would be at once the easiest, shortest and most effective course of procedure. At the same time a distinct call should be made on the Washington Cabinet to enforce the neutrality they have pretended to practice. As their action in connection with the whole of those affairs is more than unfriendly, it is insolent, and should be at once resented.

The *Broad Arrow* of the 30th of April contains a letter signed by "A Canadian Militia Officer," dated Montreal, February 21st, 1870, in which the writer is silly enough to recommend "Mr. Cardwell to satisfy himself well as to the actual state of the Canadian Militia before he consummates his scheme of removing the handful of British troops now on duty in the Dominion." The writer then goes on to state that the authorised Report of the Adjutant General for 1869 "is a tissue of deliberate untruths," and coolly says that instead of the 40,000 organised Volunteers which the Report states to be in existence "There is not, I believe, half the number." The writer must be "verdantly green," if he supposes Mr. Cardwell will take any of his information before that of an authorised report, or that the assertions of any subordinate officer whose means of information must be local, if not extensively colored by his prejudices or pretensions, would weigh against the official utterance of the Adjutant General of the Canadian Militia. The principal object of the letter appears to be abuse of Sir G. E. Cartier and the new Militia Bill. Now it is quite certain that the character of the Minister of Militia and Defence is in no way affected by the abuse which individuals may choose to level at him, and the best answer to this tiresome whine which the *Broad Arrow* publishes is to be found in the Report of the Adjutant-General of Militia, Col. P. Robertson-Ross, a synopsis of which appeared in the VOLUNTEER REVIEW for April 4th, 1870, as follows: "The organization under the present law is simple and effective, and the whole system works with ease and smoothness." The same able document states that there are 43,541 Volunteers embodied and organised in the Dominion, and that there are "twenty-

five corps enrolled in the Provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia whose services are accepted conditionally, as they cannot be at present supplied with arms and uniform." The facts of the case are that a petition was presented to Sir G. E. Cartier in June, 1869, containing amongst other objectionable matter a proposition that commanding officers of corps should have power to *draft* men to keep their corps full, and that drill should be enforced under conditions which would make it anything but a pastime. Those were propositions which no Canadian Minister dare put before Parliament, and Sir G. E. Cartier naturally felt that it was an attempt at dictation by parties who could know no more of the matter than what suited their own ideas and locality but by no means applicable to the social condition of the people of the Dominion. Under the circumstances it is hardly to be wondered at that no notice was taken of the memorial. That the Militia Bill has been an undoubted success, and events have justified the Minister's action the Report quoted above proves decidedly as well as the fact that some 6000 men have been placed on the Frontiers at a few hours notice with less excitement and bustle than a flying column could be organised in Ireland; and the Red River expedition could have had the services of 40,000 men if necessary. It is therefore pleasant to find that Mr. Cardwell's anxiety need not be excited by any circumstance connected with the Canadian Volunteers.

This whole subject has been thoroughly discussed in the columns of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW during the past year and would not now be noticed except for its appearance in the columns of the *Broad Arrow*, as the allegations are calculated to give the people of Great Britain a false impression of the military strength, resources and management of the Canadian Militia Department. We would refer our contemporary to the able Report of the Adjutant General for 1870, which we know was mailed to him in due course.

In the organisation of a citizen army the great difficulty to be encountered is to make all that is meant by that expressive word *discipline* properly understood, without it the habit of *smart* and zealous officers indulging in the vicious and dangerous practices of criticising the motives and acts of their superior officers is apt to be acquired and the evils arising from indulgence in the practice is proved by this letter and the utter impropriety of asserting that a document of such importance as a Militia Report is untrue marks the result. The letter is a cowardly attack on the motives and character of the District Staff Officers, while in reality the blame of false returns, if such there are, is shown to attach to the commanders of corps.

The writer of this letter has not done the Volunteer force service, nor given the people of England a high opinion of the morality

of its officers—and yet we know that they are without exception the most patriotic, industrious and self-denying men any country ever produced. There can be no hesitation in declaring the letter to be a libel and its allegations not borne out by facts.

"To-day at noon the screw steamer 'Ganges,' of 1800 tons, left the Victoria Dock for Quebec, having on board 761 emigrants, who are being sent out by the East End Emigration Club, assisted by the British and Colonial Emigration Fund, of which the Lord Mayor is President. It would be difficult to find a more comfortable-looking, hearty lot of people than those who this morning crowded the decks of the magnificent steamer. About 400 of the number were adults, including some sixty or seventy unmarried women of ages averaging from sixteen to twenty-five, the remaining 361 were composed of the younger members of the emigrants' families—mere infants in some cases. All were comfortably clad, had a fair share of luggage, and were provided with excellent bedding. The trades of the emigrants comprise carpenters, blacksmiths, coopers, painters and sawyers, but the bulk of them are general labourers, including some twenty agricultural ones. The Rev. J. Cohen, Rector of Whitechapel, who, with Mrs. Cohen will accompany the emigrants to Quebec, Mr. Dixon, Canadian Emigration Agent, Mr. White, special Emigration Commissioner from Ontario, Mr. E. H. Currie, the Rev. J. F. Kitto, and other members of the Club committee, were most assiduous in their attentions to the comforts of these poor people this morning. They were all verging on pauperism, and are being sent out at a cost of £3,420, besides £1,142 given towards outfits and landing money by Kelsall's Emigration Charity. The emigrants themselves have of this large sum provided by weekly deposits about £1,600; the club has contributed £200, and the Poplar Board of Guardians about £100. The balance is paid by the British and Colonial Emigration Fund. The emigrants were loudly cheered by their friends and a large crowd which assembled at the Docks."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, April 27.

These are precisely the class of people Canada requires, labourers especially, and farm labourers in particular, commanding capital wages, \$12 to \$15 per month and board. The artisans also belong to trades which will readily command employment especially the blacksmiths and coopers; but above all female servants of good character and steady habits will find no difficulty in obtaining employment at \$4 to \$8 per month according to capacity.

The club or association to whose exertions the shipment of those people are due, has performed a work of more real value to the British empire than the whole measures of the Gladstone, Bright administration since it first took office, for not only have they taken the initiative in a measure calculated to make more direct saving to the people of England than all the economies of the administration, but they have actually done this at a profit, because every soul saved from the workhouse and sent out to this or any of the other colonies not only saves to the British rate-payer the cost of his sustenance through life but his industry