

ment's hesitation attacked it with great fury, but as a consequence the two companies, with the exception of eleven men were killed, wounded or taken prisoners.

The whole American line now advanced within 360 yards of the works and a fierce engagement with the artillery and small arms ensued. A regiment of Hessians on the left of the British line gave way and the American troops had reached the abbatis in front of the works before a charge of a wing of the 71st regiment restored the fortunes of the day. After a fierce fight of some hours the American troops retreated, carrying away part of their killed and all of their wounded. As the horses had been transported to John's Island no pursuit was attempted. The British lost three officers and twenty-three men killed, two officers and ninety-three men wounded; total, 129 men killed and wounded. The loss of the American troops was not published, but it was ascertained that twenty-six officers had been killed and wounded. It is reasonable to suppose a corresponding loss occurred amongst the men.

General Prescott appears to have been animated by the same spirit of indecision which pervaded amongst all the chief officers of the British army. The post of John's Island was advantageous as it reversed the case with Lincoln and kept him at Charleston unable to move, while all Georgia was open to the British. Nor can there be any reasonable doubt but great advantages might be reaped by affording protection to and encouraging a reactionary movement amongst the people. Indeed, throughout the contest the former Colonists were divided into three distinct bodies, or rather the violent partisans of Congress, and those who adhered to Great Britain, forming about one-half of the whole population, the other half were undecided and generally cast in their vote on the side which had the best prospect of winning. If Gen. Prescott had retained possession of Stono Ferry, which he might easily have done, till autumn the whole of Georgia and the two Carolinas would have been in his possession, but his capacity was not equal to a measure of this kind, and he evacuated John's Island, and passing from island to island at last reached Beauport in the island of Port Royal, where he established a post a little north of Savannah, to which place he returned with the rest of the troops. The only advantage gained by the expedition was the post at Beauport and a supply of provisions plundered with very aggravating circumstances from the people of South Carolina, thus rendering a reconciliation or conquest equally impossible—a consequence of nearly every expedition by the British during this war.

The King of Italy is rapidly recovering from his illness, and is expected to be able to meet the Emperor of Austria at Brindisi about the 28th inst. The birth of a son to the heir to the throne has caused rejoicings throughout the kingdom.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A TALE OF THE SEA by our old friend Mr. Fraser, (Cousin Sandy), is before us, and, in typographical get up and illustration, is the best piece of work of the kind ever produced in Canada, reflecting great credit upon Author, Artists, Printer and Publisher. In the leading poem the author perfectly luxuriates in rollicking fun mixed with that satirical wit which has made him known throughout the land. In this volume Mr. Fraser has given higher indications of poetical genius than what would be expected by those who are only acquainted with him through his humorous productions in the daily press of Montreal and elsewhere. Among these are "The Old Elm Tree," and "Musings at the Chaudiere." In the latter poem he grasps a subject which is really the grand one of the age—Labour and Enterprise. Timber, sawlogs and mills may not be considered by the unreflecting as very poetical subjects; but take a few lines and learn how Cousin Sandy makes them sublime and at the same time pays a kindly tribute to the American gentlemen whose energy has done so much for the region of which he sings.

"And I saw there a colony founded,
Along the once desolate shore,
And the ring of the hammer resounded,
To drown the dread cataract's roar;
And the "crib" in its rushing glory,
Descended with sullen scud,
And the Voyagers laughed at the story,
Of dangers by forest and flood.

• • • The savage has fled from our boundary.
He has shrunk with a timid dismay,
From the mill, and the forge, and the foundry.
And the wigwam has faded away,
For men of a kindred nation,
In whose veins is co-mingled our blood,
On the Chaudiere have taken their station,
And have tamed this once terrible flood."

The kindliness apparent in this and other of the lesser poems recommend them to us and claims forgiveness for the free and easy metre of many lines. We hope Mr. Fraser will meet with extensive patronage which he fully deserves.

REMITTANCES

Received on subscription to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 25th inst.:

OMENEE.—Capt. W. Cottingham, \$4.00
WHITBY.—Ensign Joseph White, \$2.00;
Ensign James Young, \$3.00.
WELLINGTON SQUARE.—Lieut. W. Kerns, \$3.50.

ODESSA.—Ensign Ayelsworth, \$4.00; Capt. Amey, \$4.00.

PERTH.—George Kerr, Esq., \$2.00.
LONDON, Ont.—Capt. Frank B. Leys, \$2.00.
MOUNT HEALT.—Ensign A. W. Thompson, \$4.00.

ERRATA.—In our Montreal correspondent's letter of last week two errors occur, the first of a rather serious kind, which we now hasten to correct. In the second paragraph, sixth line for "trash," read *troop*; and in first line of third paragraph read *Mount Royals*, instead of "Royals."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—B., Montreal. Send it along, will insert it if approved of.

The *German Military Gazette* gives us the following information about the condition of the Turkish Army:—"The Turkish Government is hurrying on the reform of the troops, perhaps in consequence of the disturbances in Dalmatin. The standing army has till now consisted of five corps and the unorganized Redifs. The former, numbering in all 150,000 men, who serve for five years, are not to be increased, but the Redifs are to be organized. For this purpose the term of active service will be reduced to four years and in the fifth the soldiers will be drafted into the reserve. Thus a force of 70,000 will be formed which will be exempted from foreign service. At the same time the Redifs are to be drilled and organized, so that, besides its standing army, Turkey will possess a reserve of at least 240,000, thoroughly trained for home service. Their obligations extend over seven years, but they are liable to be summoned in case of need during the years that follow their dismissal. Thus the Turkish army in a time of peace will consist of 150,000 men; when the reserve is called in, it will amount to 220,000; when the Redifs are equipped, to 460,000; and in case of extreme need, when the extra reserve is summoned, it will number no less than 700,000.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The *Alabama* question is again engrossing public attention.

The celebrated "Historicus" publishes a long communication in the *Times* this morning, wherein he asserts that European States refused to consider Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee pirates, for the same reason that France long before refused to see, in regard to Benjamin Franklin, an analogy in the cases of Paul Jones and Admiral Semmes. He thinks it is complete and thence goes on to draw obvious inferences.

The *Times* in a letter on the *Alabama* Claims, says: "If Minister Motley proposes that negotiations for the settlement of the claims be re-opened at Washington, the proposal will be accepted. We must add that it would be useless to negotiate, or to talk of negotiating; unless each side is prepared to enter upon the negotiation with confidence in the honor of the other. The charge made by the Americans is that we did not show proper feeling towards them during the war; that our want of proper feeling led us to afford unfair assistance to their enemies. The defence is that it was our duty to abstain from showing feeling towards either side; that the alleged unfair assistance was a strict observance of neutrality. It is plain that satisfactory relations between the two countries cannot be restored until we understand and respect the craving of the Americans for sympathy, and they understand the difficulties of our position as impartial bystanders, injured by a war in which we felt bound to abstain from interference. We shall never arrive at the restoration of friendship if we begin in the spirit of pettifogging Attorneys. American writers and statesmen may remember with advantage that our blood is after all not very different from their own. Englishmen have susceptibility as well as Americans. It is not probable that we shall be drawn towards the suggestion that we are insincere and bent on hoodwinking those with whom we profess to be dealing openly.

Daily News in an article to-day on Canadian matters says: "England's settled Colonial policy is a marriage of affection if possible, that failing, one of convenience. No cabinet or conference will ever again propose one of force.