

that its efforts have not been in vain its steadily increasing circulation will amply testify, and its career has hitherto been one uninterrupted success.

The change in its Editorial management will make none in any of its relations. The gentleman who succeeds to that department is well known to the Press, has filled a similar office previously, has received a military education, and has served for some years in the Royal navy and understands thoroughly that "England expects every man to do his duty."

Therefore, while all necessary indulgence on the grounds of difference in talent and ability is respectfully solicited, the earnest desire and effort to fulfil the paramount obligations to the country shall not be wanting, nor any means left untried to secure the confidence which the supporters of the REVIEW justly reposed in the late Editor.

For the rest it has fallen to the lot of the present Editor, through professional engagements as a Civil Engineer, to make himself acquainted with the principal topographical features of the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario as well as obtaining an intimate knowledge of the people, their wishes, feelings, requirements and social condition, and as one of the effects of previous education this knowledge has been acquired for the purpose of making it of account in a military point of view, feeling persuaded that one of the chief wants of the Dominion is a good military force available at the shortest possible notice and the least possible expense.

That the present Volunteer force is the organization best adapted to the social condition of Canada admits of no doubt. That its position is not satisfactory, that reforms in the shape of proper remuneration for services rendered is imperatively demanded, and that justice requires a proper recognition of the services of those officers whose patriotic exertions have kept the force together, are propositions the truth of which the VOLUNTEER REVIEW is bound to maintain, and that all exertions shall be made to place them constitutionally before the proper authorities. At the same time the Volunteers should not be idle; the influence which they exert in their several constituencies should be brought to bear on their representatives, and an united effort made to place the national army on a proper footing.

As a military journal the REVIEW has no politics, belongs to no party, and knows no distinction below that of an United Empire and closer British connection. Its supporters may rest assured that every effort will be put forth to make it worthy of their continued support; and that all subjects connected with the military or naval interests of the Dominion, the development of its resources and the extension of its influence will be steadily and zealously advocated.

To those who have honored the REVIEW with contributions throughout its career the thanks of its managers are due, and it is

but right to assure them that the Editorial change will make none in the relations hitherto existing. In conclusion, the VOLUNTEER REVIEW knows no interests but that of the country, and acknowledges no power but that of the Queen.

On another page will be found a Regimental Order of the 10th Royals, dated Toronto, 25th Sept., 1869, in which additions to Lt.-Col. Brunel's "Modifications of the Drill Book" are issued by order of that officer. It is highly creditable to the Volunteer force of Canada that one of its officers should be the first to reduce to practice so desirable a reformation as that embraced in the order before our readers and in the Drill Book previously issued. Lt.-Col. Brunel is entitled to great credit for his modifications and although they do not entirely meet the full requirements of the case, yet they are a long step in advance with the prestige of being the first in the field.

The exciting events of the day is the situation in the Red River Territory—it appears that four or five hundred *half-breeds*, as they are rather contemptuously called, have organized a regular *Provisional Government*—to use the usual revolutionary formula in vogue with our neighbours over the line—in other words, usurped the functions of Government, sequestered its money and documents and actually placed the only legal authority there (Governor McTavish) under arrest. It is well known the Hon. Wm. Macdougall, C.B., late Minister of Public Works, started overland through the United States territory last fall for the purpose of taking up his residence at Fort Garry till the Queen's proclamation, which was expected to issue on the 1st Dec. last, should put him in a position to act as Lieut.-Governor, he carried with him the material of a Council of Administration and had sent before him under various pretexts quite a staff of officials, was met on the frontier by an armed force and himself and Executive Council were obliged to retire to Pembina within the United States Territory where they remained at latest advices.

If there were no serious principles involved the situation would be sufficiently ludicrous at Fort Garry, Governor McTavish represents the legal Government so far, with M. Louis Reill and his confederates in opposition representing the Government of force; on the border Governor Macdougall with his Cabinet representing the Government of expectation. Amidst this trio of Governments the governed must have a busy time of it—while the *toute ensemble* forcibly recalls to mind the principal scene in the borlesque narrative of "How I became Governor of Cacouna"—and it would not be a surprising finale if some of them abandoned the cares of office in as great haste and with as little ceremony and regret as the great and illustrious Sancho abandoned Barataria.

The serious part of it is that a grave blun-

der has been committed somewhere—it is evident that the cause or causes which led to this complication does not exist on the surface, but are to be sought as all evils of the kind in actual or suppositious wrong.

There are three distinct causes alleged—First, the unpopularity (right or wrong) of Governor Macdougall and his Cabinet; Secondly, that advantage was taken of this feeling by interested parties in the United States, and that Fenianism is mixed up more or less in the movement; Thirdly, that the action of the employees sent on in advance of Governor Macdougall gave great umbrage to the people, and that the attempt at surveying their lands without consent asked or obtained has given great dissatisfaction. And that this very probably is the cause of discontent is evident from the very able letter of John Malcolm Reid to the Editor of the London *Free Press*, dated London, Dec. 16th, in which he says, speaking of the insurgent leader Reill,—"Emboldened by his kindly manner I asked him what was the ultimate aim of his government, he replied, when you reach Canada tell them our great thought is to resist being made Irishmen of." It is evident that the idea, rightly or wrongly, has been impressed on their minds that their landed possessions were in danger.

Our Canadian newspapers are filled with suggestions and grave apprehensions as to what ought to be done or left undone, there does not appear to be any reason for hurry, the country does not yet belong to the Dominion. Hon. Wm. McDougall is simply a private citizen and none of his acts can affect the question in any way. If his presence is likely to create difficulty by remaining at Pembina his character has been greatly mistaken if he remains there, and it is stated that he has made, or is about to make, a retrograde movement to better quarters.

When the territory becomes part of the Dominion it will be full time to consider what should be done. In the meantime the necessary preparations should be made to take possession of the country at the opening of navigation, and to this end steps should be taken to complete the communications from Thunder Bay to Fort Garry, the total distance being 441 miles, of which 130 miles would be a Macadamized road, the remainder water.

The labor of 1,000 men for six months would go a long way towards completing the 40 miles of this road between Thunder Bay and Dog Lake and the 90 miles between the northwest angle of the Lake of the Woods and Fort Garry. It would be advisable to have the men engaged on this work under military discipline, therefore it would be easy getting the requisite number amongst the Volunteer corps in the Dominion—their wages should be that given to ordinary laborers, viz., fifteen to twenty dollars per month and rations. They should be thoroughly armed and equipped. The option of settling in the country, with free