

amongst them, and also of making some slight return to the ladies of the county for their well known liberality in aiding the Volunteers in their Rifle Matches and other gatherings. The affair was altogether so successful that it is intended to make it an annual institution. It is to be hoped that the good example set by the 40th, will be followed by other Battalions in the Dominion.

#### NAVAL OPERATIONS.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR:—When I ventured to intimate the desirableness of something like a fair account of the frigate actions in the war of 1812-14, finding publicity through the columns of the Review, and when, at the same time, I took the liberty of pointing out your invaluable correspondent G. W., as one in every respect qualified for such an undertaking. I could as little imagine,—so casual a suggestion, would have evoked such evident ability for its accomplishment as the first number of Naval Operations, clearly indicate, as that the gallant author would dedicate a work, sufficiently onerous to one whose best recommendation to his notice is, perhaps, a too sensitive regard for the honor and fame of that flag, Naval Operations, are about to vindicate.

With reference to my strictures upon some passages in the narrative of the Campaigns of 1754-64 your gallant contributor will easily apprehend the spirit which actuated my remarks when, in return for the confidence he was pleased to extend towards me, I assure him that, the claymores of the men I attempted to defend had, to my knowledge, reeked with the blood of my kindred, and that the family from which I have the honor, or shame to spring, played its role as a staunch supporter of the Hanoverian Dynasty. And if, since those stirring times, it has sought its proper vocation in that of arms, afloat or ashore, a little sensitiveness upon their fame and honor may be excusable in one of its members.

In hazarding a stricture upon the narrative of the Campaigns of 1754-64, it must have been inspired by that daring aptitude for seizing the bull by the horns, which has time immemorial characterized the service your gallant contributor so worthily represents. In my stolidity I had failed to appreciate the author's proper calibre, and was equally oblivious to the fact that my heaviest charge a *Mitraille* so far from penetrating, could scarce hope to chip his superior scintling, but if I did not, as courtesy demanded, veil my flag, I at least had sufficient discretion to sheer off, declining close action. Now in the prudence of this manoeuvre I claim a great superiority in tact and tactique over the spirit of a service, never known to hesitate in an enterprise, to reckon ports, men, nor metal, in any craft over which an enemy's flag was seen to flutter.

Yours, &c., &c.

SABREUR.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR:—Your own correspondent from Montreal must have been indulging too freely with stimulants from the fact of many misrepresentations he has made in your edition dated January 4th, headed "from Montreal, by our own correspondent," in which you have condemned him in very strong language regarding the French Volunteers and Sir George E. Cartier, who we all know is above entertaining such petty schemes; but as you could not be expected to go further into local items, I shall take up the second part of my subject, and merely state our New Drill Hall, is not completed and therefore the Cavalry School does not meet and drill twice a week there, as stated by your correspondent, and the last though not least, is so erroneous and untrue that your correspondent cannot be relied on.

1st. Capt. Muir's Troop of Cavalry did not re-enlist to a man and is not filled to-day.

2nd. It is not a fact they were the first to prove their loyalty and long adhesion to the Government.

3rd. If Capt. Muir, is a fair sample of a soldier, woe be to the Dominion and British freedom.

4th. His men is so thoroughly devoted to him, that, during a very short time, nearly twenty of his best men left during a few months of his command; and to-day, how many are there in the Troop that went to meet the Fenian foe. Did Capt. Muir go, or was he *indisposed* or what was the matter that Ex-Capt. W. W. Ogilvie, took command and went to the front while Capt. Muir drew pay at home?

5th. He intended to resign but they forced him to keep his Commission by unanimously declaring they would all resign; if he did so, *such is not true*, without your correspondent thinks a meeting of three or four at Capt. Muir's office, would be unanimously declaring they would all resign.

6th. The School just opened is private and got up principally by officers and staff officers of the line for riding lessons.

7th. The Guides probably number as many or more effective men than the present No. 1 Troop, and desire to re-enroll their drilled men, not so with No. 1 Troop, old hands have retired in disgust, and to-day who are they that compose that once famed Troop? Undrilled and undisciplined, in fact, nearly all recruits without a proper head to govern them? How long will such men hold command? How long will *Black Mail* to correspondents to puff and make appear well, Know-nothing's in military discipline I say how long will such be tolerated—I fear too late. Should our country require their services, where shall we look for effectiveness? Away with such idle nonsense and let men of honesty and fairness be found. Away with tyranny and oppression, and despotism in Commanding Officers, and you will find that no ballot will be required, but men with willing hands and hearts would re-enroll and the Force would be all that is required, for one volunteer is worth two pressed men.

Yours truly,

C.

BURFORD, P.O. ONT. JAN. 11, 1869.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

DEAR SIR:—Through the kindness of Mr. Scepell I have been favored with the perusal of some copies of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, just the organ the force requires, indeed considering the multifarious changes which the Military and Naval economy of our little earth is constantly undergoing; it is difficult to see how such a chronicler could be dispensed with. Every intelligent Volunteer desires to know how his brother volunteers in other parts of the Dominion are progressing and to note the steady improvement in the Targot Shooting, etc. Not to speak of the able and descriptive narratives of campaigns given from time to time which might find a parallel even in the history of Canadian Volunteering. Since Capt. Lemon, has blown his own trumpet through his paper (and we think he has good reason for being inflated) following precedent I may be permitted to sound a note for our little headquarters. It speaks well for the military ardor of the place that Burford Village is the headquarters of a Cavalry and Infantry company, both of which have mustered well under the new Law, thanks to the popularity of the officers, and both have freely patronized the Military Schools, nine of the former and seven of the latter company having attended their respective Schools.

At your command,

I have the honor to remain,

R. DOUBLEDICK.

#### THE MILITARY SCHOOLS AGAIN.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR.—Can you inform T. V., your very obedient servant, whether the Cavalry and Artillery Schools are intended by the Government for the training of Volunteers of both arms of the Service or for a means of subsistence to every fine gentleman out of employment. Lack a day I fondly thought, when glorifying in the knowledge of big guns, mortars and Gyl, that may First Class Certificate was some pumpkins, at least, but how miserably was I deceived. Following the same pattern as the Infantry School, the Schools of Gunnery swarm with men who justly have no right or title to enter, civilians (not in the Volunteers) abound and Infantry Cadets (just passed their proper school) innumerable alas! alas! Mr. Editor what earthly use is all the trouble, worry and expense entailed by volunteering if we cannot keep even the little Kudos the Government pretend to give us? Why should any Volunteer Officer seek to qualify, when he knows that there is no honor in the certificate he seeks to obtain, which every hotel loafer and spunger in the country possesses? I thought with many others that we would have a change for the better when the schools of Cavalry and Artillery were first introduced, and in the outset they bade fair to be exclusively used only for *bona fide* Cavalry and Artillery officers, non-coms., troopers and gunners, (and perhaps Infantry Field Officers) vain hopes;—already everywhere respectable Cadets complain of a system which cannot be too strongly reprobated; that of allowing Tom, Dick and Harry, free entrance into the various schools. The ancient *esprit de corps* is gone forever and with it the best element in the Force.

Yours, &c., &c.

TOMMY VACK.