

**THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW**

Is published EVERY MONDAY MORNING, at OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by GEORGE MOSS, Proprietor.  
 TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS:**

All Communications regarding the Militia or Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

Communications intended for insertion should be written on one side of the paper only.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Correspondents must invariably send us, confidentially, their name and address.

All letters must be Post-paid, or they will not be taken out of the Post Office.

Adjutants and Officers of Corps throughout the Provinces are particularly requested to favor us regularly with weekly information concerning the movements and doings of their respective Corps, including the fixtures for drill, marching out, rifle practice, &c.

We shall feel obliged to such to forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that it may reach us in time for publication.

**CLUBS! CLUBS! CLUBS!**

For the purpose of extending an advantage to the NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS and MEN of the FORCE, we have decided to send "THE REVIEW" to BATTALION and COMPANY CLUBS of TEN and UPWARDS at the rate of \$1.50 per annum for each copy.

Any NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER or PRIVATE sending us 15 names at the above rate, will receive a copy of "THE REVIEW" for one year, free of charge.

"THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW OFFICE,"  
 Ottawa, August 1st, 1867.

**OTTAWA SUBSCRIBERS TO****"THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW"**

Are respectfully informed that arrangements have been made with Mr. DAVID FULTON, News Agent, 37 Rideau Street—who is our sole Agent for the city—for the delivery hereafter of their copies of the REVIEW, at their residences or offices, instead of through the Post-office, as formerly. It is hoped this arrangement will insure the regular delivery of the paper, and consequently do away with all complaints in that respect.

Ottawa Nov. 18, 1867.

GEO. MOSS.

**"DOMINION" NEWS DEPOT!**

MILES' OLD STAND, 37 RIDEAU STREET.  
 OTTAWA, ONTARIO.

THE undersigned, seeing the need for a News Depot in Lower Town, for the better convenience of a part of the reading people of our city during the stormy winter season—have this day, MONDAY, 18th Nov., opened the "DOMINION" News Depot, in Miles' old stand, opposite Workman & Co., Rideau street, where they will, in co-operation with their Depot in Centre Town, keep on hand all the general publications of the day, and endeavor to satisfy the reading public. They will furnish the following periodicals at the earliest convenience:

**AMERICAN:**

N. Y. Daily Herald, N. Y. Weekly Herald,  
 Boston Pilot, Irish American,  
 Irish Citizen, now, Irish People,  
 Scottish American Journal, Musical Review, new,  
 Harper's Bazar, new, Harper's Weekly,  
 Chimney Corner, Literary Album,  
 Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, N. Y. Ledger,  
 N. Y. Weekly, Fireside Companion, new,  
 Penn and Pencil, new, Police Gazette, Police News,  
 N. Y. Clipper, Sporting Times,  
 Waverley Magazine, Harper's Monthly,  
 Godey's Lady's Book, Frank Leslie's Lady's Mag.,  
 Madame Demorest's Monthly Magazine,  
 Budget of Fun, and other Comical Papers,

**ENGLISH:**

London Journal, Family Herald,  
 Bow Bells, now, Englishwoman's Magazine,  
 London Illustrated News, and other Periodicals,  
 London Punch, and other Comical Papers.

**CANADIAN:**

Toronto Globe, Toronto Leader,  
 Montreal Gazette, And our City Papers.

STATIONERY ALWAYS ON HAND.

HOUSER & FULTON.

Ottawa, Nov. 18, 1867.

**CAUTION.**

The public are hereby cautioned against paying any monies, on account of "THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW," to

ALEXANDER RIGGS,

as they will not receive credit for the same, he having been DISCHARGED by me, FROM MY SERVICE, on the 3rd of August last.

GEO. MOSS.

Ottawa, Dec. 2nd, 1867.

**The Volunteer Review,**

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,  
 To guard the Monarch, fence the law."

OTTAWA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1867.

**VOLUNTEERS AND REGULARS.**

We perceive by late English papers that the overwhelming reverses suffered by the Garibaldians, at Mentana, have been made the occasion of an outcry against volunteers generally, and their inefficiency when brought to face actual warfare. In England there are certain journals that assume a lofty, dictatorial tone upon every question, whether important or not, which arises in the inevitable march of necessity and progress. These dogmatic censors, assuming the right to do the thinking for the rest of the nation, deliver their opinions and decisions with all the serene self-sufficiency of despotic majesty. Conspicuous among this class is the *Pall Mall Gazette* which, having become tired of playing public opinion weather-cock, strives to shine as public opinion finger-post; and under the heading of "The Lessons of Mentana" delivers its fiat upon the volunteer movement and system—this fiat being anything but complimentary to the volunteers; indeed it may be considered as altogether condemnatory. As the writer deals with facts which are well known to our readers, in connection with the recent battles in Italy we propose to consider his remarks and discover, if possible, whereon he bases his argument. Taking the battle of Mentana as his subject, he assumes that the Garibaldians, who were all volunteers, were equal in numbers to the regular forces, French and Papal, which were opposed to them. They fought well, as well in fact as volunteers could be expected to fight, but failed altogether to make any impression upon their enemy, and were so cut up after one day's engagement that they became demoralized and unfit to offer resistance on the succeeding morning. From these premises the conclusion is drawn that no volunteer force can ever

hope to cope with regulars, and that it would be the merest folly to place any reliance upon an irregular organization when opposed to regular forces in the field; and he characterizes the whole volunteer force as "a broken reed for the country to depend upon for its defence, and the dangers which the movement was intended to guard against were not materially diminished by it." He caps those remarks by the inevitable conclusion that volunteering is "nothing more than a vent for a foolish and expensive taste for playing at soldiers." Now if this be really the case in England, who possesses a large standing army always at command within her borders how must we, in Canada, regard the force upon which we must inevitably place our principal reliance in the event of hostilities. But the facts from which this writer draws his conclusions need a closer examination and the whole circumstances a more searching enquiry, after which we presume a different and probably more logical conclusion will be obtained, and one which will, we hardly think, result in the condemnation of all volunteers as a valuable auxiliary in the field. We are well aware that whenever raw levies have been brought suddenly into action they have not shown, nor could it be expected of them, to show the same steadiness as soldiers accustomed to habits of routine and discipline. But, leaving that question aside, there is this grand feature in the volunteer system that, should national panic or invasion occur, every man will know where to go for the purpose of giving assistance for the preservation of the public peace, or to enroll himself for the actual defence of the country, having previously obtained such knowledge in the use of the rifle, and such proficiency in common battalion drill as fit him at once to take his place in the ranks. Here also he would find a body of men situated and disposed like himself, with whom, in a few days, he would acquire all the knowledge necessary to make him a good and efficient soldier. In this, the first instance, it will be perceived the comparison does not hold good between our volunteers and the Garibaldians. It is alleged that the opposing forces at Mentana were nearly equal, or at any rate the volunteers were not outnumbered. This is however a mistake for, as near as can be made out by the contradictory reports of this engagement, the French and Papal troops were in proportion of three to two. Again we are not so certain that the regular forces succeeded in thoroughly using up their opponents with such comparatively insignificant loss to themselves. Any person who has paid the least attention to the published French reports of "killed and wounded" must know how totally unreliable they are, and how impossible it is to obtain a fair knowledge of the losses of an engagement from returns published by the Government. Indeed it may fairly be assumed that the loss was much greater than the interested officials would care to acknowledge. And