

WHELAN, the murderer, has expiated on the scaffold his participation in the horrible crime which robbed our country of one of its brightest ornaments. The terrible tragedy, the first scenes of which were played in Montreal, reached its awful climax in Ottawa, had its miserable by-play in the Courts at Toronto, has had a partial denouncement at Carleton Jail on Thursday last, but is not yet concluded. We believe that eventually the whole history of the conspiracy of which the Hon. T. D. McGee was the victim will yet be made known to the world and brought home to the assassins. That Whelan was not the only one in the transaction is now pretty well believed by all who have watched the slow development of the trial. He has suffered for his share, but, we believe, others will yet stand arraigned for participation with him. It is well that we have a strong Government backed by a loyal people, for there are moving about in our own midst a class of men so degraded and lost to all sense of justice and humanity, that they not only sympathize with Whelan, but glory in the crime for which he suffered. Of this class were the two disguised ruffians who sought a medical gentleman of this city to request him to administer chloroform to the convict on the gallows that he might not suffer pain in the execution.

In refusing to give up the body the authorities acted wisely, for we are informed that it was the intention of certain people in Montreal to have a grand demonstration at his funeral in that city. We are glad the design was frustrated. There is something exceedingly revolting in the idea of connecting the name of a confessed assassin with a people who heartily despise him and the vile faction to which he belonged and of which he was the infatuated tool.

Now that the whole trial is ended and its legitimate conclusion achieved, it is satisfactory to reflect that the prisoner has had the full benefit of the law, and the services of the ablest Counsel in the country. None can say hereafter that he did not get justice or that he was vengefully hurried to execution without having every chance of proving his innocence. It is also satisfactory to know that he acknowledged his participation in the crime. His guilt is thus placed beyond a doubt, and we are only sorry his accomplices did not suffer with him.

CONNECTED with the reorganization of the Militia of Canada there has been a vast amount of labor, which has fallen principally to the share of Lt. Colonel Powell, A. A. G., and he deserves infinite credit for the manner in which he has discharged the arduous duties devolving upon him. In no former period of Canadian military history has any officer had to perform like services bearing any proportion or analogy to those required by the provisions of the new Militia Act. For some time past the Adjutant General's Department has been no

sinicure for those employed there. By the kindness of Colonel Powell we had an opportunity, during a recent visit, of forming something like a correct estimation of the amount of labor to be got through with in setting the new machinery in working order. The destruction of the Desbarats printing establishment was not the least of the troubles which had to be contended with. After weeks of labor the whole of the appointments and other matters connected with the Reserve Force were definitely arranged, put in type, the last proofs corrected and returned to the Queen's Printers. Next morning the whole was in ashes and, Col. Powell had not even the scratch of a pen remaining of all his labors. Of course the whole thing had to be done over again, and hence the delay and difficulty. However we are glad to see that all has now been overcome and set right again, and the thanks of the country are due to Colonel Powell and his subordinates for the able discharge of their duties, signalized as they have been by extraordinary difficulties.

THE Woodstock Times wants to know—If it is intended that officers will enforce the provisions of the 51st section of the Militia Law, while its penalty goes into the public Treasury, the Captain of the company being responsible for all stores. Perhaps the Review can enlighten us on this head, pointing out the direction, which, according to the Act the money penalty takes after passing into the hands of the Magistrate. If our contemporary will turn to the 90th section of the Militia Act he will find the following:—"Every penalty when recovered shall be paid over to the Receiver General: but Her Majesty may remit any penalty incurred under the provisions of this Act."

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE.—All communications addressed to the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW must be accompanied by the correct name and address of the writer to insure attention.

"LT. COL. A.," Brockville.—As the REVIEW is not published until Monday morning it could not possibly reach your address before Tuesday.

"W. H. W.," Almonte.—Your address changed as required. We would be glad, and it would save much trouble, if all subscribers changing their residence would notify us of the fact.

"J. G. S.," Quebec.—If your letter leaves your city early on Wednesday it will reach us in time if not delayed on the road.—Corrections made as directed.

"MAJOR D.," Woodstock.—The perusal of your letter gave us much pleasure. "The Songs of a Wanderer" was mailed to your address last week. Thanks for the pamphlet of which more anon. We will be glad to hear from you as often as you may find it convenient.

"VOLUNTEER," Quebec.—As no limit was set to the time for corps or battalions to perform their annual drill, such as have not fulfilled the law can do so now and of course receive pay for its performance.

"Z. B. P.," Montreal.—Adjutants and Battalion Drill Instructors do not belong to the Staff of the Militia. Battalion Drill Instructors, when required, are gazetted in General Orders.

"C.," Montreal.—We cannot publish any more letters from you. We are creditably informed that you have given us a fictitious name, consequently you have been guilty of a breach of faith of the worst kind, and we regret exceedingly having opened our columns to you. The charges you have brought are vague, though startling, and we would advise you, if you wish to press them, to do so openly and clearly that people may know you and the truth or otherwise of what you advance. Captain Muir may or may not be all you say; of that we know nothing, but as he states that he "would not notice any communication, either public or private emanating from" you, we must decline to give your letters room in our columns, at least until such time as you have cleared yourself of the attempt to deceive us for the gratification of unworthy private pique.

#### REMITTANCES

Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW during the week ending Saturday, the 13th inst., viz:—

TORONTO.—LT. COL. G. T. D., Sr., \$2.

KING, O.—G. P. W., M. P., \$1.

ST. HYACINTHE.—R. F. J., \$2.

GRIMSBY.—Capt. J. H. G., \$2.

MONTREAL.—Capt. J. M., \$2; Capt. T., \$2; A. R., \$2; A. W. O., \$2; B. D., \$2; Dr. G., \$2; Capt. G. B. P., \$2; Dr. N., \$2; Col. B., \$2.

OTTAWA.—Capt. C. P., \$4.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—The squad now under instruction at the Montreal School of Gunnery desire to express through the columns of the "Review," their high appreciation of the services rendered them by Lieut. J. M. Saunders, R. A., who comes over from St. Helen's Island twice a week to deliver lectures on well chosen Artillery subjects, of practical use and interest; they have also been favored with an able and instructive lecture from Captain Branker, Gunnery Instructor, 4th Brigade, R. A.; Colonel Williams himself likewise enlivens the routine of drill by readings which he has the talent of making popular, useful and explicit. These services in themselves of great benefit, go far to show that an interest is taken in the School by the Commandant, of which the Cadets ought to be proud indeed, and so they are.

ONE OF THEM.