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THE
Illustrated War News

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Notice to Correspondents.

Correspondence intended for publication should be brief, courteous in tone, and accompanied by the true name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Such communications should be addressed to the "Editor of the Illustrated War News, Toronto."

All letters on business subjects should be directed to the "Grip Printing and Publishing Company, Toronto."

TORONTO, APRIL 11TH, 1885.

THE publishers of THE ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS feel greatly encouraged at the gratifying reception accorded to their enterprise by the public, notwithstanding the manifest shortcomings inseparable from the first issue of a paper composed so largely of pictorial matter. The demand for copies has greatly exceeded their most sanguine expectations, and justifies the continuance of the undertaking while the present exciting times prevail in the North-West. The third number, which will be issued next week, will have a supplement containing one of J. W. Bengough's inimitable cartoons—tinted—covering two pages, showing "The Real Cause of the Rebellion." The subjects of the other illustrations in that number will be of surpassing interest, embracing various pictures in representation of scenes in the experience of our soldiers from the pencil of our artist accompanying the expedition, besides sketches and photographs forwarded from various sources.

In compliance with the urgent requests that have reached us, we have made arrangements for temporarily keeping up the supply of the first and second numbers, so that all who desire to possess a complete volume will be able to gratify their wishes by promptly taking advantage of the present opportunity.

THE REAL CAUSE OF THE REBELLION.

THE politicians on both sides have already shown characteristic ingenuity in endeavoring to fasten upon the party they respectively—though not always respectfully—oppose the responsibility for the era of murder and rapine which has

set in on the North Saskatchewan; but the subject is still involved in dark and dreadful mystery, like the true inwardness of the now historic Bribery case.

A flood of light, however, will stream upon the whole question of the North-West troubles when J. W. Bengough's two-page tinted cartoon appears in the Supplement which will accompany the next issue of the ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS.

Let the guilty parties tr-r-remble! Seeing is believing, and the public will have no doubt as to who is really blamable after having the real facts exposed, not simply in black and white, but in their true colors.

WHO SHOULD SUPPLY THE PERSONAL OUTFIT?

VARIOUS municipalities, following the public-spirited example set by the Corporation of Toronto, have shown their sympathy with the patriotism exhibited by the volunteer militiamen in supplying the men suddenly called to the front with the good boots and underclothing that the circumstances required. While many of the recipients are happily in circumstances which did not make this commendable liberality a matter of necessity, unpleasant investigations on the one hand and painful admissions on the other have been judiciously avoided by supplying each man going to the front with the articles which he was otherwise most illogically expected to furnish for himself. On the fallacious principle involved in the Government leaving this matter to individual or municipal attention, the *Globe* offers the following pertinent remarks:—

There is something not at all satisfactory about the municipal corporations having to supplement the equipment of the volunteers as the troops are ordered out to the front. A man's undershirt is in this climate at this season of the year as necessary a part of his equipment as is any other article of his dress. The Government could just as easily have supplied the undershirts, stockings, etc., as the corporations could, and common sense would indicate that the Government ought to have done it. A volunteer when called out for service ought not to be required to furnish any part of the clothing which it is necessary for him to take; neither ought he to be left dependent upon charity nor the local taxes for his proper equipment. The sacrifice made in giving up business and facing the dangers of war and all kinds of unaccustomed hardship is enough to form the citizen soldier's full share of the work. The Government ought to undertake the rest.

While heartily concurring in the spirit of the above remarks, we are prepared to take far stronger ground and to protest against a serious dereliction of duty on the part of the Militia Department in throwing upon individual militiamen or the municipalities to which their corps belong the responsibility of providing necessaries which it was never contemplated by the official regulations should be furnished at private expense. By reference to the *Regulations and Orders for the Militia, Canada, 1879*, which are those in force, it will be seen that they contain the following instructions to the officer commanding a corps called out for actual service:—

431. He will require the paymaster to draw up a nominal roll of the men under his command, with a column of remarks, which shall show when any man became non-effective; he will, at the first muster parade, personally ascertain that each man is in possession of the articles of equipment below enumerated, and will immediately report any deficiencies to the district staff officer:—

- 1 rifle, with small stores complete.
- 1 set of accoutrements capable of carrying 60 rounds.
- 1 knapsack and straps complete, with canteen or great coat straps if knapsacks have not been issued.
- 1 haversack.
- Sixty rounds of ball ammunition.
- 1 water bottle or canteen.
- 1 great coat.
- 1 change shirt (flannel or cotton).
- 1 do pair socks.
- 1 do boots or shoes.
- Needle and thread.
- Knife.
- Piece of soap.
- Towel.

Now why, if the Government leaves the individual or his municipality to supply socks, shirts, boots, or shoes, should it not

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