

## THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

Is published EVERY MONDAY MORNING,  
at OTTAWA, C. W. by GEORGE MOSS,  
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### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Communications regarding the Militia or  
Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial de-  
partment, 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 com-  
munications. 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 concern-  
ing the movements and doings of their respec-  
tive Corps, including the fixtures for drill, march-  
ing 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.

### DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

GEORGE MOSS having this day purchased  
the entire interest of "THE VOLUNTEER  
REVIEW," the partnership hitherto existing  
between the undersigned, as proprietors of the  
same, is hereby dissolved.

The REVIEW will in future be published by  
GEORGE MOSS, who hereby assumes all the li-  
abilities of the late firm, and to whom all ac-  
counts due thereto are to be paid.

GEO. MOSS

GODFREY S. O'BRIEN.

Witness,

ALEX. RIGGS.

Ottawa, February 26, 1867.



## The Volunteer Review,

### AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, MARCH 18, 1867.

### THE DEFENCE OF CANADA.

THERE are persons who take a gloomy  
view of this subject, without going further  
than to compare the preponderance of popu-  
lation and resources of the United States—  
the only enemy we need fear—with that of  
Canada. Under ordinary circumstances, the  
successful struggle of four millions of people  
in defending themselves against thirty mil-  
lions, would be a miracle of courage and de-  
termination, although instances of the kind  
are on record. The Southern States, with  
about eight millions of population, and  
with every circumstance outside of their ter-  
ritory against them, defended themselves for  
four years; and when, at last, they were  
obliged to succumb, poverty had reduced  
their armies to a mere handful—not more  
than thirty thousand between both LEE and  
JOHNSON, against more than two hundred  
thousand under GRANT and his Generals.

This disproportion was not much greater than  
we would be called upon to encounter. But  
where the circumstances were all against the  
South, they will, in the event of hostilities, be  
in our favor. The first great blow to South-  
ern success was the moral support given by  
England to the North. It utterly destroyed  
Confederate credit in the market, and re-  
duced the defenders to the necessity of op-  
posing four to one on ground marked by no  
natural lines of defence, and without a fleet,  
or any means of procuring arms and muni-  
tions of war, except such as they could  
manufacture in their own rude arsenals.  
Had there been no blockade, we believe,  
notwithstanding all the other disadvantages,  
the Southern States would have succeeded  
in establishing their independence. If we  
should be wantonly attacked, the moral  
power of the world must be in our favor;  
for even upon the principles laid down by  
the United States themselves, we have the  
undoubted right to establish any form of  
Government we see fit, and there is no  
ground upon which any nation could assume  
a position adverse to us, as there was in the  
South on the subject of slavery. Assuming  
then, as a matter of fact, that the civilized  
world must sympathize with us in our efforts  
to defend ourselves and the institutions  
chosen by our people, we can safely count  
upon all the aid, both moral and material,  
that Great Britain can give us. The inter-  
ference of France in the establishment of the  
Empire of Mexico was open to the objection  
that NAPOLEON had no legitimate right to in-  
terfere, further than to support the claims  
of French subjects in Mexico, who formed  
but a small fraction of the population; but  
Great Britain, in aiding in our defence, would  
only be protecting her own. As to the duty  
of doing so, it is fully recognized by the  
mother country. In Lord CARNARVON'S  
speech on the introduction of the British  
North America Act, he thus refers to the  
subject of defence:—"He now came to the  
question of defence, which, it might be said,  
in a military point of view, naturally sup-  
posed the occurrence of war, and if war  
broke out it might also be said that the war  
would be one with the great neighboring  
republic. He needed hardly to say that such  
a war would be a most barbarous, unnatur-  
al, and disastrous war, and would throw  
back the prosperity of the provinces for very  
many years. Nevertheless, in considering  
such a measure as the present, it was neces-  
sary to discuss each collateral point. It was  
very commonly said that the defence of Can-  
ada would be impossible. Every one must  
admit that the difficulties would, no doubt,  
be considerable, but, on the other hand, it  
was to be borne in mind that one high mili-  
tary authority had stated that those difficul-  
ties were by no means insuperable. With  
the resources which were available there was  
no reason whatever to despair of a good de-  
fence. Some persons were in the habit of  
saying that the burden of expenditure was  
unequally adjusted as between Canada and

the mother country. He admitted the time  
was coming, if it had not come, when a re-  
vision of the apportionment of that expen-  
diture would be necessary, and he did not  
apprehend any difficulty whatever on the  
part of Canada. There had been a great  
deal of misunderstanding and some misre-  
presentation on that subject. The Canadians  
had not been backward in the matter of ex-  
penditure. Much had been doing in the  
way of increasing the military strength of  
that colony. Camps had been formed and  
cadets had been receiving instruction at the  
hands of competent officers. In 1864, the  
military expenditure was \$300,000; in 1865  
it was nearly \$900,000; but last year it had  
risen to upwards of \$2,000,000, so that it was  
approaching £500,000. It had been said by  
some persons that the idea of defending  
Canada and New Brunswick ought to be  
given up; that we ought to concentrate  
our strength on the peninsula of Nova Scotia,  
and convert Halifax into a second Gibraltar.  
Now, not to adduce any other arguments  
against that proposition, was it not evident  
that if Canada and New Brunswick were de-  
stroyed it would be impossible to defend  
Nova Scotia?" Here the fact that Great  
Britain must maintain her footing on this  
continent is fully recognized. Lord CARNAR-  
VON admits that this could not be done if  
Canada and New Brunswick were abandoned.  
We are, therefore, safe in assuming, that  
come what may, England will render us  
every assistance in her power. In the event  
of a "barbarous, unnatural and disastrous  
war" we should enter upon our defence  
with the credit of Great Britain, and the  
power of her fleet in our favor. We are not  
here speculating upon our defence when  
England is at peace, for so long as she is in  
a position to throw her whole strength into  
a struggle, there is not the slightest fear of  
any power, however willing they might be to  
do so, attacking us. They know her deter-  
mination to maintain her prestige on this  
continent, and will take good care to stop  
short of actual hostilities, while the paws of  
the British Lion are free. But, it is in the  
event of England being engaged in a strug-  
gle in the old world, that we may look for at-  
tack. To prepare us for this, the mother  
country is now doing her part nobly. Be-  
sides the fortifications and military highways  
already erected, and securing to us a loan  
for the construction of the Intercolonial  
Railroad, on the most advantageous terms, the  
estimates for this year contain over sixteen  
millions of dollars for military and naval  
purposes in the Colonies. With such  
facts before our eyes, we would be the most  
craven of sceptics if we did put full faith in  
our successful defence. But it will also be  
seen our willingness to help ourselves  
has added greatly to our status in the  
eyes of our countrymen at home. With-  
in the past two years we have given  
sufficient evidence of such a determination,  
to awaken renewed confidence in our spirit.  
When we have assumed the position which