

## THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

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### TO CORRESPONDENTS:

ALL Communications regarding the Militia or  
Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Depart-  
ment, 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 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 in-  
formation of this kind as early as possible, so that  
it may reach us in time for publication.

### OUR AGENT.

We beg to notify our numerous friends and sub-  
scribers that Mr. J. J. BELL is authorised to act as  
General Travelling Agent for THE VOLUNTEER  
REVIEW; to receive subscriptions and transact  
any other business connected with the paper.



## The Volunteer Review,

• AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, JULY 20, 1863.

ALL nations and people have, or have had  
their anniversaries—days marked by some  
supreme event in their histories, the date of  
which is ever afterwards held sacred to the  
memory of that event. Thus do we cele-  
brate certain days without caring much why  
we do so; they were set aside, ages ago, in  
red letters. Our fathers celebrated them,  
their fathers celebrated them, and we cele-  
brate them; not that we have particular  
interest in so doing, but from that spirit of  
conservatism which is inherent in the nature  
of all men, to respect and uphold that which  
their forefathers respected and upheld, for  
every boy must naturally regard his father's  
sentiments as a part of his inheritance, if that  
father does not forfeit the esteem planted  
by nature in the breast of his child. But it  
is unfortunate that we often inherit pre-  
judices which had better be forgotten, and  
celebrate anniversaries that are not calcu-  
lated to impart a healthy feeling to our after  
days, nor give to our children higher, and  
more extended ideas of the duties and  
privileges of manhood. In honoring the  
past we should ever remember that we live

in the present, and that we will be judged in  
the future. In this active and money grub-  
bing existence we are content to take our  
opinions at second hand, and pin our faith  
desperately upon ideas the correctness of  
which we have never thoroughly examined,  
merely because those ideas have been incul-  
cated in childhood, and all the prejudices of  
education and circumstance have confirmed  
them. Thus we find in America few festi-  
vals, indigenous to the country, celebrated  
by the people; we have, in fact, imported  
the anniversaries we honor from the other  
side of the Atlantic. All the heterogeneous  
elements of nationality which compose the  
masses of the population yet cling to the  
traditions and memories of lands which  
must in time become foreign, if not to our  
selves, to our children. Therefore should  
we be careful to uphold only the recollec-  
tion of things which are healthy in tone and  
elevating in feeling, and endeavour to make  
the land of our adoption our true national-  
ity, for as we have cast our lot and seek our  
fortune in it, so shall we eventually become  
absorbed among its people. In it all the  
ties which once united us to another land,  
must be severed; and, although our  
lost love may be remembered with all the  
lingering fondness of romantic affection, yet  
it is in the active present that we exist, the  
duties of which we must perforce fulfil.

We are citizens of a new country—the  
pioneers and builders of a new nationality—  
and, as such, we are called upon to exercise  
the highest privileges ever enjoyed by citi-  
zens. It is a lofty honor and a duty not to  
be lightly undertaken; therefore, should  
we endeavor so to establish Canadian na-  
tionality, that while we still hold with love  
and veneration the time-honored institu-  
tions of the Mother land, that which we  
shall bequeath to succeeding generations  
will be such as to deserve their thanks, and  
worthy of our parentage. National pre-  
judices imported by our fathers should be  
sunk and forgotten: and we should all, for-  
getting the distinctions caused by accidents  
of birth, join heartily together in building  
up this glorious Northern Empire. The  
attractions of wealth, pleasure and excite-  
ment, so alluringly displayed by the great  
people to the south of us, annually attract  
great numbers of our young men who are  
impatient to obtain possession of those privi-  
leges of life which are only the reward of skill  
and industry. From the United States we  
are every day made aware of the force of the  
great wave of democracy, which impinging  
upon our shores, leave upon them many  
signs of the storms through which it has  
passed, nor are those signs of a nature which  
would lead us to hope for better things, and  
it is consequently more incumbent upon  
us to exert ourselves in raising a barrier  
against this overwhelming torrent of radical  
republicanism, and transmit unimpaired to  
those who will come after us the inheri-  
tance we have brought from the Mother land.

We have on several former occasions  
alluded to the transfer of the Hudson Bay  
Territory to the Dominion of Canada as an  
event likely soon to take place. There can  
be no doubt that the acquisition of this im-  
mense country would be to us a great  
material benefit, as it would give us the  
means of opening up the fertile valleys and  
mineral treasures of the North-West, and  
bring us nearer to our fellow subjects on the  
Pacific Coast, who have often of late evinced  
their desire to become a part of the Do-  
minion, but it behooves us to know exactly  
upon what terms we are to receive the ter-  
ritory, what we shall have to pay for it, what  
responsibilities we undertake, and what  
concessions we will have to make. If, as we  
have heard it stated, the Hudson Bay Com-  
pany is to retain possession of the principal  
trading posts, with several thousand acres  
of land attached, with many other important  
privileges, we are not at all desirous of the  
purchase; for, in such a case, we will be  
merely undertaking the settlement of path-  
less wilds, to put money into the pockets of  
a class of greedy monopolists, who have so  
long been a curse to the country, and an  
incubus paralysing the natural efforts of  
expansion inherent to American civilization  
and progress. Whatever rights the company  
possesses in this country, which is geogra-  
phically ours, we are willing to obtain by  
fair bargain; but it would be the shurest  
absurdity for the Dominion Government to  
undertake the responsibility of opening up  
such an immense territory without obtaining  
full possession of all its resources. The  
transfer to be of any use must be complete  
and unreserved. In reality Canada has no  
boundries to the north, and, if this monopoly  
will not gracefully submit to our progress  
we must in obedience to our destiny ignore  
and set it aside.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT has been from time  
immemorial the distinguishing characteristic  
of the social condition of the English people,  
and has done more to prepare the way for  
that constitutional regime which is the model  
for all free institutions in the civilized world,  
than any inherent quality in the population  
of Great Britain or any external cause what-  
ever. In every dependency of the great  
Empire the degree of political and intellec-  
tual freedom enjoyed by the people is mark-  
ed by the greater or less development of  
their municipal institutions—which are in  
fact elementary Parliaments in which future  
statesmen are to be trained. The develop-  
ment of new ideas, the expressed desire of  
the people, and their actual requirements,  
social and political, may be gathered and  
understood from the debates of the Council  
Chamber, and that the facts thus elicited  
are not more frequently acted on is due  
rather to the idea that in Parliament alone  
such questions should be discussed and there-  
fore alone speculative Politics should originate,  
than from any actual tangible reason against