

adian Army," for any country might well feel confidence in such defenders. The success of the Red River expedition is well known, and the Canadian troops there are an honor to the country. Throughout all this mighty movement THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW did its duty by the force and the country, and it can well look back on the record with justifiable exultation in which neither selfishness nor personal vanity has a part—an advocate of the true principles on which a military force should be founded it has the proud satisfaction of witnessing the triumphant establishment of the two following axioms which appeared on the first page of the first number ever issued, on January 7th, 1857, viz: "First—To make an army effective it must comprise the great mass of the healthy male population of the country to which it belongs. Second—Its organization must absorb the minimum of time and cost. The *Militia Bill* by making these great truths the foundation of its provisions has worked out a system the most effective and best adapted to the condition of the people. That its principles are deservedly popular the patronage extended to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW decidedly proves, and while yet in the process of development its future will be sure to bear out its early promise.

While thanking our kind friends for the steady support extended to the REVIEW, we would remind them that knowledge is never stationary, and this is especially true as respects military science—it is emphatically a subject of continual study—and only by such means will their services be available for their country's need. THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW will endeavor to keep that kind of useful military knowledge before its readers which admits of direct practical application—will always keep its columns open to the officers of the force to state calmly and temperately their views, and while not accountable for the opinions of correspondents, will endeavor to give the force and its readers both sides of every case affecting the *Canadian Army*.

The issue of breech-loading arms has necessitated an entire revolution in the manual and platoon exercise—that this will prove no obstacle to Canadian Volunteers their alacrity and intelligence assures us—but the necessity for acquiring a thorough knowledge of his weapon is an indispensable condition for the young men of this country. The present contest in Europe proves what can be done with a *Militia* force, as the best appointed and most powerful regular army in the world was broken and scattered like chaff by men who had marched in at *one door* of an arsenal *citilians* and out at *the other door* equipped *soldiers*! Without being in any sense servile imitators our Canadian *Militia* Law will provide for a similar state of affairs when it is fully developed, and each *Military District* becomes the locality of its own *corps d'armes*—drill, rifle shooting and brigade movements are provided for by the new organization, and the past autumn has witness-

ed all those carried out on a scale commensurate with the consequence of the country. Conscious that they are not the slaves of a military despotism, harsh, unfeeling and exacting, the people of Canada take a just pride in acquiring the knowledge that enables them to *make their hands keep their heads*. Satisfied that their *Militia Law* is an amplification of the good old English constitutional measure which provided a defensive force they serve, because they are free men and submit to discipline because by it they are enabled to defend their country—content with developing their own resources they are not embodied for conquest—and are just the sort of people to make that operation as regards themselves impossible.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW thanks its patrons—rejoices over the past and present, and has, as far as Canada is concerned, no fears for the future.

THE President of the Republic of the United States in sovereign contempt for treaties, following in this respect his Russian ally, charges in his message that Canada in protecting her marine rights has acted with discourtesy to the United States and assumed rights to which she was not entitled. The treaty of 1818, which was accorded to the United States, defines at once and for ever her claims to participate in the fisheries of our Eastern bays and straits as follows:—

"The inhabitants of the United States shall have for ever in common with the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty the liberty to take fish of every kind on that part of the Southern coast of Newfoundland which extends from Cape Race to the Quiripon Islands, on the shores of the Magdalen Islands, also on the coast, bays, harbours and creeks from Mount Jolly on the Southern coast of Labrador to and through the Straits of Belle Isle and thence Northwards indefinitely along the coast, and that the American fishermen shall also be at liberty forever to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbours and creeks of the Southern ports of Newfoundland, above described, and of the coast of Labrador. But so soon as the same, or any portion thereof, shall be settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such portions settled without previous agreement for such purpose with the inhabitants, proprietors or possessors of the ground; and the United States hereby renounce forever any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants thereof to take, dry or cure fish on or within three marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks or harbours of His Britannic Majesty's dominions in America, not included within the above mentioned limits."

The framers of this treaty would be the best exponents of the meaning of the *three marine miles clause*; but that there may be no doubt about it Wheaton, the highest American authority on International law, lays down as a rule that "the maritime territory of every state extends to the ports, harbours, bays, mouths of rivers and adjacent parts of the sea enclosed by head lands belonging to the same state. The general usage of nations super-adds to this extent of territorial

jurisdiction a distance of a marine league, or as far as a cannon shot will reach from the shore along all the coasts of the state. Within these limits its rights of property and territorial jurisdiction are absolute, and exclude those of every other nation." Such was International law and usage when the treaty of 1818 was passed, there can be no doubt on the mind of any man that it was intended to measure the line of exclusion as three miles outside a straight line from headland to headland according to Wheaton's definition—of the adjacent parts of the sea enclosed between headlands; so that the Canadian people so far from acting with discourtesy have forborne a positive right and one that should be enforced from this time forward. It is not only insolent and presumptuous on the part of President Grant to charge the Dominion with discourtesy, but he is either ignorant of or wilfully ignores a simple question of right.

It is useless reiterating to bullies of his description that he cannot have those fisheries his people know full well he dare not demand them. As far as this country is concerned the case is clear—we will compel that respect to the treaty of 1818 which the United States Government think it their interest to ignore. Russia wants the treaty of 1856 abrogated to suit her own ideas of right and wrong, the United States wants that of 1818 set aside for her own profit, while Prussia declares she won't be bound by the treaty of 1867 as regards the Duchy of Luxembourg, —but neither the Russian Bear, the Black Eagle, nor Yankee Rooster are yet free to carry out their desires—the old Lion can growl and the cubs can bite.

THE Canadian Press exhibits singular unanimity in their mode of dealing with the message of the President of the United States. We publish in another column a leading article from the *Coaticook Observer*, remarkable for the vigor and perspicuity of its tone and argument; it portrays accurately the feelings of contempt with which President Grant's attempt at bullying are viewed. What is most remarkable about the matter is, our contemporary has been a strenuous advocate for friendly relations with the United States, and pursued that policy of conciliation to such lengths as to draw down a charge of annexation proclivities on the conductors of that Journal—indeed the *Vigette* on its first page shows that peace and good will were the principal objects kept in view, as it represents two hands clasped together under the cover of the United States and British flags. Even our peace-loving contemporary cannot stand bullying any longer and at once throws down the gauntlet determined if such conduct is persisted in to do his share of the fighting; and for the benefit of whom it may concern, it is as well to say at once that this is the feelings of ninety-nine out of every hundred in Canada. If President Grant wants fighting he can be accommodated at the shortest possible notice.