

PROSPECTUS

OF
**THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW AND
 BRITISH AMERICAN MILITARY AND
 NAVAL GAZETTE,**
 A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS
 OF THE VOLUNTEER FORCE, THE SERVICE
 MILITIA, AND THE MILITARY AND NAVAL
 ESTABLISHMENTS GENERALLY IN BRITISH
 NORTH AMERICA.

THE late war in the neighboring Republic, and the consequent establishment of the United States as a great Military Power, to a large proportion of whose population the pursuits of peace have become distasteful, have rendered it imperative that the people of these Provinces should provide for themselves such means of Defence as may no longer allow their weakness to be a temptation to a neighbor skilled in arms and flushed with recent success.

In view of the unsettled state of affairs on our southern border, the Home Government has of late made considerable addition to the Imperial Forces in this country, and her leading Statesmen have given reiterated assurance that, if necessary, the whole Force of the Empire will be employed in our Defence; stipulating, however, that we, so far as our means and population will permit, shall do our part. True to that feeling of loyalty to two British Sovereign and love of British Institutions, which has ever been their boast, the people of these Colonies have accepted the position with all its honors, responsibilities and dangers, and now exhibit to the world the noble spectacle of a Citizen soldiery, embracing in its ranks thousands of the most influential and intelligent of our population, prepared to defend to the last the land they live in and the laws they reverence.

The alacrity displayed by the Colonists in the months of March and June last abundantly testifies to their desire to defend these Provinces; but it is evident to all who give the subject a thought, that vast as has been the progress made towards providing for them a thorough and practical Military Organization, much has yet to be done to complete the work. To establish an efficient and economical System of Defence is a problem which is now engaging the attention of our wisest Statesmen, many circumstances rendering it impossible to introduce into these Colonies, without modification, any of the systems pursued in the Old World, while new ideas require to be well matured before trial, owing to the vast expense such experiments entail.

The Canadian Force alone is worthy of an independent special Advocate and Organ; but when all the Forces of British North America are consolidated, it will become imperative that a medium should exist through which our Citizen soldiery, now to some extent strangers to each other, may study the various systems of organization introduced among their comrades, exchange mutually their thoughts and sentiments, and secure the correction of those abuses and wrongs, which will creep into every system, by exposing them to the notice of the authorities and their fellow-countrymen.

Such a medium as this "THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW" is intended to establish, and no exertions will be spared to render it worthy of the body whose spokesman and ally it aims to be, — a Force which will doubtless, ere long, be put on such a footing that, come what may, with the favor of Providence and the protecting arm of the Mother Country, we will be enabled to work out our destiny in a way worthy of a British people, confidently leaving to the unseen hand of Time

"All that else the years may show,
 The poet forms of stronger hours,
 The vast Republics that may grow,
 The Federations and the Powers;
 Titanic forces taking birth
 In divers seasons, diverse climes;
 For we are ancients of the earth,
 And in morning of the times."

We have thus given briefly an outline of the course we intend to pursue, and the reasons which have induced us to embark in the enterprise. In carrying it out, no pains or expense will be withheld to procure for "THE REVIEW" the earliest authentic information of all matters within its province, and to render it in every way worthy of

the confidence and patronage of those interested in our National Defences.

Among the subjects of peculiar interest to the members of the Force, both Regular and Volunteer, "THE REVIEW" will contain accurate information concerning—

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At the Court at Windsor, the 10th day of
 November, 1866.

PRESENT:

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by the "Foreign Deserters Act 1852," it is provided, that whenever it is made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities are or will be given for recovering or apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in the territories of any Foreign Power, Her Majesty may by order in Council, stating that such facilities are or will be given, declare that seamen, not being slaves, who desert from merchant ships belonging to such Powers, when within Her Majesty's dominions, shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships, and may limit the operation of such Order, and may render the operation thereof subject to such conditions and qualifications, if any, as may be deemed expedient, and whereas it has been made to appear to Her Majesty, that due facilities are given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant-ships in the territories of their Majesties the Kings of Siam,

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of the powers vested in Her by the said "Foreign Deserters' Act, 1852," and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared, that, from and after the publication hereof in the "London Gazette," seamen, not being slaves, who within Her Majesty's dominions, desert from merchant ships belonging to the Kingdom of Siam, shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board the respective ships:

Provided always, that if any such deserter has committed any crime in Her Majesty's dominions he may be detained until he has been tried by a competent Court, and until his sentence (if any) has been fully carried into effect.

And the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the Right Honourable, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Right Honourable Viscount Cranborne, and the Right Honourable Spencer Horatio Walpole, three of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(Signed,) EDMUND HARRISON.

January 5th, 1867.

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 All Business with the Crown Timber Office and
 Crown Lands Department attended to