

its usurpation of power: even then, why cry out against our countrymen who saved that thousand from being a thousand more? Yet we find Escobedo in his famous letter to Governor Gomez (the Governor of Nuevo Leon) mixing up America with France as if we were common enemies to Mexico and partners in her spoliation. The late slaughters, he says, 'will satisfy the Europeans, and the Yankees, too, that to trifle with Mexico is death by the "law."'

"How to account for such a sentiment toward the United States we hardly know, unless it be on that cynical theory that "one who does a favor can forgive the receiver, but the receiver can never forgive the doer." Mexico feels too sorely her late dependence on us not to be chagrined a little now, but it is an ungenerous feeling, and ought to be exchanged for the becoming spirit in which the weaker nation accepts the protection of its stronger neighbor against oppression. Theories apart, the facts go to show that our countrymen in Mexico are in danger of being proscribed; and should Escobedo or Diaz be elected—a contingency not impossible—their property and their lives might be suddenly snatched from them."

RIFLE MATCH.—A rifle match came off on Saturday afternoon last, between five officers, five non-commissioned officers and five gunners of the Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery, and the same number of officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Civil Service Rifle Regiment, particulars of which we are reluctantly obliged to hold over until next week, owing to their non-arrival at the hour of our going to press. The ranges were 200 and 300 yards, five shots at each, and the regulations those which usually govern rifle matches. Of course the Civil Service Rifles will have an immense advantage over the Artillery (who use the carbine), from their having had almost daily practice with the short Enfield rifle, but the already well known reputation of the Artillery will suffer no stain should they come off second best. The Ottawa Provisional Battalion of Rifles have announced their intention of challenging the regiment making the highest score in this match.

SECRETARY STANTON'S REMOVAL.

The President's wrath, which had been so long nursed against General Sheridan, seems to have been suddenly deflected, and has now fallen on Stanton. But a few weeks ago, Sheridan was on the brink of removal, and Stanton seemed tolerably firm seated; but wise friends warned Mr. Johnson not to attempt to raid on the hero of the Shenandoah, and, as if to console himself for this chagrin, and determined to remove somebody, the Chief Magistrate seems to have alighted upon Mr. Stanton. Sheridan's course provoked in great part the Cabinet plans and policies which Stanton resisted;

it was around Sheridan that the storm began to break, but Stanton caught the lightning.

The President has the right, of course, to unify his Cabinet, and as he is a man who is obviously pleased with concord of sentiment (provided it be concord with his own), he does well to gratify himself by removing the Secretary of War. It was a political stroke, too, to appoint General Grant to the vacancy. One would have suspected, to be sure, that either General Steedman or General Rousseau would be appointed, as they are the two army officers who seem to have been most successful in catching the spirit of the President's policy, and have hitherto kept pretty industriously occupied by him. But neither was disengaged; and, beside, General Grant's name is a "tower of strength." Still, it must be remembered, that these are days of principles rather than of men. Should General Grant (which is inconceivable) withdraw his support and approval from the District Commanders in their present course, for the sake of giving a lift to the Cabinet, he would only ruin himself, without raising the Administration. He knows this, too, quite as well as anybody else.

Should the President's initiative upon the War Office be followed by hostilities against the District Commanders, it is clear that nothing but the greatest injustice could select one victim over another for punishment. Sheridan differs but little from Sickles, Sickles from Schofield, Schofield from Pope, or Pope from Ord, in the management of affairs, and these slight differences are perfectly comprehensible on the ground of the difference of the localities over which they severally hold jurisdiction.

The Government some time since issued orders for the recall of all the rifles in the hands of the volunteers in the Province, preparatory to their exchange for the Snider enfield, on the receipt of the latter from England. Their arrival was, however, delayed, and the transfer did not in consequence take place as soon as anticipated, but we now learn that the new arms have arrived in Quebec and only await being marked, preparatory to being served out.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of The Volunteer Review.

DEAR SIR,—Amongst the varied questions that will come before our Legislature for discussion at the next meeting of Parliament, there is, perhaps, none of such importance to the New Dominion, as that relating to the best means of defence. Nothing is more expensive to a country, young or old, than a standing army. Nothing gives a smaller return to the Government for the money invested than its soldiers. In old countries where trades and professions are overstocked, probably men can be found in abundance for privates, whilst others of a superior education, may, without much trouble, be procured for officers; but in a new country like ours, where every available man is required to till the soil, or perform the work of an artisan, and where large sums are every year expended to draw immigrants to our shores to fill the back settlements, how can we afford to raise a standing army

or maintain them in idleness when they are raised? A story is related of a pugilist, who wishing to gain pupils to the noble art of self-defence, was propounding to a group of youths this to him all important question: "Now young gentlemen how could you hope to defend yourselves if you knew nothing about boxing?" Some gave one answer and some another, until one amongst the lot replied, "By keeping a civil tongue in my head." This may do very well at times, but some fellows think that the civiler you are, the more you are afraid of them, and the more they will annoy you by treading on your corns; this unpleasant treatment becomes unbearable, and you either double up the aggressor or are doubled up yourself.

I believe it has already been conceded, that, man for man, Canadians are fit for any foe that may venture to place foot on Canadian soil; but if the Mother Country with draws her troops, as she speaks of doing, what would 100,000 men that we could raise on an emergency, do against five, ten, or twenty times that number, and even with all the force that Britain could raise to back us up? For the present, the United forces would only be a mere contingent compared with the mighty odds that could be brought against us; it is evident from this point of view, that Canada requires a larger population, that the unpeopled lands require to be peopled, and that those lands should be held by the respective local governments at the lowest possible rates.

The main objection to the Volunteer force is, that during a period of excitement from raids, or the expectation of an invasion, this branch of the service flags, and feels no interest in either drill or other military duties; the consequence is, that when the time comes for action, they are comparatively little better than the rawest of recruits. It is evident that some mode of organizing the militia must be adopted to make it popular with the general public, in order that it may grow up with our national growth, and strengthen with our national strength. I understand that the Adjutant-General has in preparation a bill to be introduced during the next Session of Parliament. Let us hope that he will gain for himself additional honors to those already won in England, and that our militia may, at least, be on equal footing with that of any modern government.

Very truly, yours,
A SUBJECT.

EX ROUTE.—The first battalion of the 14th Regiment, from the Curragh Camp, are now en route for Canada, on board the *Serapis*, the new Indian troopship, which recently conveyed 2400 Belgian riflemen to England. The *Serapis* will return with the second battalion of the 23rd Fusiliers, now at Levis, and the fourth battalion of the Rifle Brigade, from Montreal. The first battalion of the 14th Regiment will be quartered at Quebec on arrival.