

posed, he considered altogether inadequate for providing fortifications. He declared the intention of the Ministry to ask Parliament for a block sum of five millions for this purpose, to be unconstitutional, and was of opinion that the cost would come to something more like ten millions. Referring to the provisions of the Militia Bill, he said it was the opinion of competent officers that the measure would have the effect of destroying the Volunteer system. He concluded by saying he was prepared to support any reasonable measure, but if this were not modified he should see it necessary to move some amendment.

Mr. Bodwell followed, making similar remarks, condemning the Bill.

Dr. Parker spoke at some length also, being convinced that the Bill would have the effect of destroying the Volunteer force, which he maintained was capable of doing all the country required.

Mr. Thompson was of the same opinion.

Fr. Grant regretted that no provision was made in the Bill for the organization of a Medical Staff, and hoped the needed amendments would be admitted by the Government when the Bill went into Committee.

Mr. Young considered the Bill too like the European system.

Mr. McGill spoke in favor of the Bill, and hoped nothing would induce the Minister of Militia to alter its main features.

Mr. M. C. Cameron said the proposed measure was very distasteful to the country, and that he had received a great number of letters from officers in his constituency instructing him to act against the Bill if he wished to see the Volunteer force kept alive in the country.

Mr. Ross (Dundas) spoke in favor of the Bill, and said the Volunteer system had not proved itself efficient: he would like to see the money proposed for fortifications devoted to perfecting the Militia.

Hon. Mr. Cartier rose to reply. He referred to the arguments which had been used to show that the Bill would destroy the Volunteer force. He said that it was important to improve the militia organization at this important point of our history. The Volunteer force had not been, nor was it, so efficient as had been generally supposed. In June, 1867, there was a Volunteer force on paper, which was about 33,000, but in reality it was only 23,000, and since then it had dwindled down. He then explained at some length the provisions of the Bill, and concluded by moving its second reading. The motion was carried.

The investigation in connection with the late assassination still continues, the prisoner Whelan is fully committed to stand his trial at the next assizes. Fenian ramifications in Canada have, we are informed, been unveiled to the authorities. Numerous arrests have been made, but whatever the nature of the information possessed by the Government it is kept strictly secret, but will all transpire in good time.

The evidence given by Cullen proves Whelan's guilt beyond a doubt. It appears that this man in company with another person undergoing sentence in the Jail, were in the corridor outside the cells where Whelan and Doyle are confined, and overheard their conversation, in which Whelan declared he shot Mr. McGee like a dog, adding: "I'm a great fellow, my name will go down to posterity!" He also gave an account of his family, by which it appears that one of his brothers was shot at the firing of the Police Barracks in Tullagh, Ireland, and the other is in prison for the same. This conversation also revealed the fact that Whelan has many sympathisers among a certain class, and proves that there were several accessories before and after the fact.

#### TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

London 21st.—The London Times of this morning has a special despatch from its correspondent with the expedition in Abyssinia, who says that on the 29th of March General Sir Robert Napier, with the advance, was at the village of Redelan. The weather was cold and rain was falling. It was reported that King Theodorus had an army of 10,000 men and would make a stand against the British.

London, 22nd.—Bayley and Keefe are the names of the supposed Fenian incendiaries who were arrested at Buckingham Palace last night. They were brought before the Police Magistrate this morning, and after a brief examination were remanded to gaol until a chemical analysis is made of the combustible fluid found in their possession.

London 23rd.—At the trials of the Clerkenwell Fenians to-day the examination of the witnesses for the Crown was concluded. The Jury will probably acquit the female prisoner, Ann Justice, on the recommendation of the Court.

London, April 24th.—Late and startling intelligence has just been received from Australia. Prince Alfred, who is visiting Sydney, was shot and dangerously wounded by an unknown person, and the would be assassin, who was said to be a Fenian, was promptly arrested. The Prince, according to the latest advices, was slowly recovering.

Later intelligence from Abyssinia states that Gen. Napier was to make a dash on Magdala on the 2nd inst.

This afternoon official despatches were received at the India Office from Gen. Napier, dated April 1st. The General reports that on that day he reached Abdicom, only thirty miles from Magdala, with the advance column of the expedition. The rear was close at hand and the whole expedition would concentrate on the left bank of the river Jemma. The Abyssinian King was posted with his army on the Rasselo.

News has been received from the British slaves. They continued to be well treated by the King.

Gen. Napier says his men are in good health and spirits.

Dublin, 21st.—The Prince of Wales to-day unveiled Foley's statue of Edmund Burke, with grand imposing ceremonies, in the presence of a vast multitude of spectators.

Dublin, 23rd.—The Prince and Princess of Wales attended a grand ball given in their honor last night at the Exhibition Palace.

The Rifle Match between the 8th Batt. Quebec, and the Ottawa P. E. G. Artillery is arranged to come off before the 15th proximo. The distances are 200, 300, 400 and 500 yards, 11½ the position. 5 rounds at each distance, 15 men a side.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE.—All communications addressed to the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW, must be accompanied by the correct name and address of the writer to insure attention.

BENBOW's letter in answer to SADBREU will appear next week.

POETA CANADENSIS.—We are very sorry indeed, but really we cannot publish your "Lines on the Death of T. D. McGee." They are certainly as good, if not better than the greater number we have seen published on the same subject, but we have had that sort of thing *ad nauseum*. Since the morning after the ever memorable 7th, an overwhelming flood of washy doggerl has been poured upon our unwilling ears from the columns of the newspapers. To those who truly honor and mourn the memory of the lamented Mr. McGee, this is not only painful, but humiliating. Like the "criers" and "weepers" who used to collect at a wake in Ireland, each emulous poetaster has raised his "keenagh" and had his howl in rhyme, of which it may be justly said: "*non dei, non homines*,"—you know the rest." Will POETA CANADENSIS believe us when we tell him that we have a collection of some 150 so-called poems on the same subject as that on which he has written, the greater number of which are tipped with quotations from the Latin Litanees, lugged into the verses in a manner which shows a strange want of taste and education. As we too sincerely honor the memory and mourn the loss of our patriot martyr to join in these humiliating "death songs," we must beg to decline your infelicitous contribution.

X. Y. Z., Quebec.—Accept our best thanks for your pleasing letter. We will be very happy to publish your communications weekly and accept you as our own correspondent in the Ancient Capital.

G. W., Campbellford, O.—Your article which is exceedingly good,—"*Paul Jones and Dennis Duval*,"—will appear in our next. For this and former favors accept our best thanks. We never reveal the names of our correspondents without their permission, but would be happy to forward your letter to the gentleman you name, were your supposition correct, which we are sorry to say it is not. Verses very good, will publish them in an early number.

#### REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

During the week ending April 25th, we have received, on account of subscriptions, the following.—

PARIS.—J. E. B., \$1.

PERTH.—W. J. M., \$2.

COBURG.—C. G., \$2.

INCOITS.—Lieut. W. M., \$2.