THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

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TO CORRESPONDENTS:

All Communications regarding the Militia of Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department should be addressed to the Editor of THF VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

Communications intended for insertion should be written on one side of the paper only.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Correspondents must invariant; 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, rine practice, &c.

We shall feel obliged to such to forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that may reach us in time for publication.

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Agents for "The Volunteer Review," IN EVERY CITY,

TOWN,

And

BATTALION

IN THE DOMINION,

TO WHOM!

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OTTAWA

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The Polunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1869.

In reply to many inquiries concerning the pay of the 31st Battalion we would inform our friends that the order for payment was sent from Head Quarters to Captain Leys over a month ago and in all probability it will be paid immediately.

AFTER the stock of Militia clothing and appointments at present in Government stores is exhausted no more will be obtained, so that members of the Force will in future have to apply to such as Mr. McEachren of Toronto for articles of outfit.

ONE of the best evidences of the revulsion of feeling in Nova Scotia is given by the fact that six companies of Volunteers in Lunen. burg have complied with the requirements of the new law and sent in to the Deputy Adjutant General their re-enrolment papers. A', the present time this is peculiarly significant, and we hope this first indication of contentment will we speedily followed by other corps of that province imitating the example and sending in their papers also.

On the fourth of the present month General U. S. Grant assumed the Presidency of the United States, but it is a question whether even his popularity has out lived the short period which has elapsed since his electen. The fickle regards of a republican mob whose energies are directed through rings of political jobbers, are not easily won or easily retained and the hero whose every word and action were, a short time age, hailed as the perfection of wisdom, suddenly discovers, if he is to believe his former admirers, that he is not so extraordinary an individual after all. "Hold your tongue and nobody will know you're a fool," is a piece of rude advice that few persons to whom it is tendered are likely to be guided by. In an evil hour for himself General Grant neglected to observe it and the consequences are such as to make his prospective term of office anything but a path of roses.

Silence, when combined with success, argues an amount of self-contained power calculated to impress the minds of all who come in contact with one so gifted; thus we may give the new President full credit for practising the virtue of silence with singular success up to that unfortunate moment when, in contradiction to his former declaration that he had no policy, he declared that he would have economy in all branches of the public service, and, that his intentions might be carried out, he demanded honesty from Congress. By thus prematurely disclosing his intentions he called up around him a host of enemies, and of a class, too, which, by years of corrupt practice, has brought to perfection that science known in the elegant language of Washington city as "log rolling" or "wire pulling." These are the "rings" of which we hear so much of late which combine with pliable members of Congress to get through bills authorizing gigantic speculations by which immense sums are drawn from the public treasury to fill * 3 pockets of greedy political sharpers. General Grant with the direct honesty of a soldie, declared uncompromising war against these dishonest schemers, he saw through their "little game" and determined to frustrate it. but he should not have made known his sentiments so soon. By doing so he has raised obstacles in his path which may cause him some difficulty to remove. However if he succeeds in cleansing this more honor than he won by the capture of Richmond. The task is a mighty one, and the tactics which led to success in his military career may not be found equally effective in the warfare against corruption which he has inaugurated on his assumption of the Presidential Office. It is not pleasant for a "free and enlightened" citizen of the Republic to hear the first magistrate demanding honesty from the representatives of the people; it implies a doubt that model institutions do not work with the perfection they ought, and is painfully suggestive of things hardly consonent with the heroic virtues of patriotism. While we never entertained any very exalted idea of the genius of the new President, we never doubted his honesty and in common with all true men we wish him success in over coming his opponents.

Regarding another matter, however, he has spoken and we must in that deny him our wishes for his success. The Alabama claims he seems to regard in a light not even assumed by Seward in his most daring efforts at deplomacy, and to the utterance of his sentiments upon this question we attribute in a great measure the failure of Reverdy Johnson's treaty for settlement. Opposition to Great Britain is always popular in the United States Congress, and the merest cur will receive attention and applause so long as he raises his tiny, truculent bark against the old Lion. It may be popular to talk of going to war with England but it is quite another thing to push the threat to action. It is a game at which two can play, and he who talks loudest does not always fight best. If the new President is wise he will not provoke foreign wars, but, with the vast power now at his disposal, strive to restore his country to peace and prosperity by reconciling the elements of discord fomented by years of intestine strife. Should he attain this end he will confer a benefit upon his country greater than anything achieved by his predecessors, and for which he will deserve the thanks of all succeeding generations. He has oppor tunities now and by the manner he uses them we will judge whether he is all his party believe him to be, or merely the accident we judged him.

We cannot however allow this opportunity to pass without paying a just tribute to Andrew Johnson who up to the last expiring moment maintained his defiant attitude, clinging with a persistency truly admirable, to the constitution which it was his misfor tune to see torn and trampled under foot by the representatives of the people and in defiance of him, their chief magistrate. In his last message, before relinquishing office, he boldly argues his position and defends his policy and with the most direct language proves that his course at least was guided by principle.

The inaugural address of President Grant Augean stable of rascality he will deserve is characteristic; there is in it nothing