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The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada.

VOL. II.

OTTAWA, CANADA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1868.

No. 7.

ON THE DEATH OF A FAVORITE HOUND BELONGING TO A FRIEND, UNFORTUNATELY KILLED BY POISON.

BY WILLIAM PITTMAN LETT.

"I little thought, when first thy rein
I slack'd upon the banks of Selce,
That Highland Eagle o'er should feed
On thy fleet limbs, my matchless steed!"
—Lady of the Lake.

Alas! poor VENUS, noblest hound
That ever sprang with eager bound
The instant that the scent was found,
Thy final hunt is o'er!
Never again thy bugle note
Will on the breeze of morning float,
The matchless music of thy throat
Will greet our ears no more!

This finger holding now the pen
Was on the Rifle-trigger, when
With lightning swiftness down the glen
The Buck in terror came!
Fierce in his wako thy strides came fast—
And loud thy voice swell'd on the blast—
Ah! little thought I, 'twas thy last
Run with the noble game.

Thou wert of staunch, unrivalled breed;
Swift as the Antelope in speed,
Thy voice was over in the lead,
The Queen of all the Pack!
Not one could wind the game like thee,
Or bound away so lithe and free,
Or follow with such certainty
A cold and scentless track.

True, as the best Damascus blade
By process of refinement made,
Perfect! without a single shade
To mar thy matchless fame!
When thou wert slip'd to scour the wood,
The watcher of the "Runway" stood
With confidence that smoke and blood
Would soon be in the game.

Oft have I listened to the sound
Thy tongue rang echoing around,
While on before with startled bound
The "antler'd monarch" fled;
O! by St. Hubert! 'twas a yell,
Once heard, would be remember'd well,
Its loud and glorious trumpet swell
Would almost wake the dead!

Fierce as a tiger on the run,
Yet gentle when the chase was done,
And sure as bolt from Whitworth gun,
Alas! that thou art gone;
Faithful, beyond even human faith;
Sad was the accidental scalth
Which hurried thee to timeless death
Of hounds, thou peerless one!

Brave Venus! who will say 'tis wrong
For thee to sing a funeral song?
Or censure sorrow keen and strong,
For noble beast like thee?
I would that every earthly friend
May prove as faithful to the end,
For even a Dog, a charm can lend
To proud humanity.

—Citizen.

ON GUARD.

I confess that on the night when the Hundred and ninth dined with us, I took a great deal more alcoholic drink than I should have done. Mr. Gough would say that was very wrong: I reply that he is very right. Mr. G. might add, that if there was no such stuff as beer, wine, or spirits to be had, I could not have so erred, and that, therefore, we should pass a Maine Liquor Law. I reply that, by the same reasoning, all horses should be converted into sausages, to prevent people from ruining themselves on the turf; that money, which is the root of all evil, should be plucked out of human institutions; that if there was no such thing as marriage, there could be no such thing as divorce; and that a community of goods would prevent the possibility of theft.

I plead extenuating circumstances. My present life was so new to me. Six months previously, I had been a quiet, dreamy, middle-aged married man, living in the country, and devoted to entomology, when there came that telegram from the heights of Alma, which gave the combative bump of every man and boy in England such a magnetic thrill that it has not left off tingling yet, and a hint from our lord lieutenant made me accept a commission in the militia. I was now a smart, gay young bachelor lieutenant (I had still a wife somewhere, but was there not a sentry on the barrack gate?) one of the garrison of Eddystone, and, on this particular evening, president of the mess. Our guests were officers of the line, who had just returned from India, and were soon going out to the Crimea, and I had to drink champagne with every one of them; and I appeal to the soberest of men—to you, sir—whether you could allow a cold, reasonable, heartless heeltap to remain in your glass when you were drinking to a man who, in a few weeks, was to be shot at in your quarrel. And, after all, I was not very far gone; it is true that I sang a song; but I went to bed unassisted, wound up my watch, and pulled off my boots. I also remember my last thoughts before going to sleep, which were, that I was glad there was no early parade next morning, but sorry that the room would go round and round, and round and round, like a dry Maelstrom.

I had two remarkable dreams that night. First, I sat in a tower in Jerusalem, which was being battered by the Romans, and at

each heavy *thud, thud* of the ram, I felt the walls tremble and shake, but did not care how soon they fell, for we had been out of water for a month. Then I was once more a little boy at school, and very thirsty; at a short distance off, I could see the pastry cook's, with "Iced Lemonade" written in letters of gold upon the window-pane, and lo! a thrice happy youth was draining a goblet thereof with an eagerness which raised my desire for drink to madness: but between the spot where I stood and the coveted draught was a blank wall, and at fifteen paces therefrom stood a row of fifth-form boys, with tennis-balls in their hands. Thump, thump, whack, thump came those balls about my ears, as, crouched against the wall, I—I woke, and discovered that some one was knocking, with the regular single punch of a Nasmyth hammer, at the door, and that my mouth and throat were too parched to tell him to come in. However, I managed to utter some inarticulate cry, which was properly understood, and Sergeant Thompson entered the room, closed the door, brought his heels together, and saluted. Like an old soldier and intelligent man as he is, Sergeant Thompson rightly interpreted my glance at the cupboard, and going thither, he produced a bottle of soda-water.

Pop! wobble, wobble, fisch! and the sensations of years were crowded into the time it would have taken to count five; for those few seconds I was in Paradise, but the sergeant soon dashed me to the earth.

"You are for guard, sir," said he, taking the empty tumbler from my hand.

"For guard!—I!"

"Yes, sir; Mr. Arundel was taken ill last night, and you come next. The adjutant says you must be on the square in half an hour."

"But, but—I have never been on guard; that is, I have only been as supernumerary."

"Must make a beginning, sir."

"I hope I am under a captain. Is it the Dock-yard?"

"No, sir, Lockman Dock—the Magazine, as it's called."

"Ah! well, the sergeant will tell me what to do: who is he?"

"Don't know, sir; we don't find the guard."

"What! and who do, then?"

"The marines, sir, I believe;" and he saluted and went.

Giddy and ill as I was, I had to be on the square in half an hour—I, who generally take an hour to dress!

Our adjutant, who looked after his officers as a cat after her kittens, or the captain of a college boat after his crew, joined me as I left the barrack gate, and poured advice and

encouragement into my ear. He told me that I knew all I had to do, because we had practised it previously, reminding me how we had gone about our own barrack square, relieving imaginary guards and visiting fancy sentries; then he explained everything minutely, informed me that I could not make a mistake, it was all so very simple, but damped this encouraging assurance with the reminder that the general was very particular, and that any blunder of mine would be a disgrace to the regiment, and so we arrived at the parade. There stood the different guards in a long red line; there were the colours, and the band, and the brigade major; and there, in the distance, overwatching the proceedings like a grim Jupiter, the awful general, and there, too, were a select body of ladies, nursery-maids, and children, who had turned out thus early to see the show, which was pretty enough to those who were not actors therein, or who, being such actors, knew their parts, and had not sick headaches. I fell in, and the band played, and the colours were paraded up and down, and I got along pretty well until we arrived at a part of the performance where the officers had to march right across the square, in slow time, to their respective guards. Now, I can keep step very well when in the ranks, because I move my legs when the others do, but my bump of time is, or ought to be, a dead-level; and stepping with the band, now that I was all alone, was to me as physically impossible as waltzing had always been, so that whenever I glanced at the officer of the adjoining guard I found I was out of step, and changed feet, and as this happened pretty often, my progress became one continuous *chasse*, which gave me an air of dancing across the parade. But this was not all: my head was in such a whirl that I could not march straight to my front, so that when at last I reached the red line before me, I found that I had some how edged off to the wrong guard, and the howls of the Brigade-Major, while I was running about, trying to find my place, were something frightful to listen to.

At last the trooping was over, and as all the guards marched off, I felt happier; nobody could bully or interfere with me now, for I was in command; and as we tramped through the streets, I felt at least two inches taller, especially on passing a bow-window where three of the lowest—

"Howl-llt!" roared a voice of thunder, which brought us up as sharp as if an iron wall had sprung up before us.

I jumped so that I dropped my sword.

When I had picked it up, I discovered that an individual with red face and grey whiskers, dressed in uniform, with a cocked hat and a brass scabbard, and mounted on a powerful big-boned horse, was louting at me.

"Way the orcus did you not carry arms to me, sir-r-r? eh?"

It is impossible to convey any idea of the accent he gave to that "eh?" I nearly dropped my sword again.

"I beg your pardon, sir," said I; "I did not see—"

"Then you ought to have seen, sir," he barked, and digging his spurs into his horse, vanished like a flash of lightning. Who he was, what his rank, or whence he came, I know not, neither do I care. But a glance at the bow-window showed me that my discomfiture had proved a source of mirth to the occupants thereof, and I felt bitterly towards the individual with the grey whiskers and powerful voice. As I could not sink into the earth, a course I should certainly have preferred to adopt, there was nothing for it but to march on, and in

due time we reached the gates of the Lockman Dock, through which we stopped in slow time, with carried arms, the adjutant's directions coming into my head one by one as I wanted them. The guard-room was situated on the right, inside the gates, and the old guard was posted at open order in front of it. I knew that the new guard must be drawn up facing them, so I led my men solemnly on.

"To the right, form, sir!" cried the sergeant in a loud whisper, but did not catch his meaning, and so thought it simpler to go on a little further.

"Halt—front!" cried I and they halted and fronted, but, alas, their *backs* were turned to the old guard, in whose ranks I think, I heard an insubordinate giggle.

However, I counter-marched my men, and then the old guard presented arms to us, and we presented arms to the old guard, and some of the new guard were marched off to relieve the sentries, and I apologized to the old guard officer, a youth of eighteen, who graciously patronized me, and told me that I should do better another time. He also kindly gave me a tip for the Cambridge-shire Stakes, and imparted other valuable information, until, all his sentries being gathered in, he marched his party off, and behind him were closed and barred those gates beyond which it was unlawful for me to pass for twenty-four hours.

As a general rule, the fact of being confined in any particular place, however pleasant, would make me long to get out of it, but at present I had no such wish, for the novelty of the position had a romantic charm about it which quite reconciled me to the imprisonment. Twenty-two marines, some of them bronzed and decorated men, who had braved for several years the battle and the breeze, were under *my* command; and it was my first taste of power, for being a quiet man and a hen-pecked, it had never occurred to me to exercise authority at home. Then I was in a responsible position; no one could come into the dock yard without my permission, and if he insisted on forcing his way by climbing over the wall or otherwise, I might—might I order him to be bayoneted? Yes, I might certainly do so, and the sentry would probably obey me; but should I be hung for giving such an order?

This being a point worthy of serious consideration, I took the board of orders down from the mantelpiece, and seating myself on a truckle bed, which, with a table, two chairs, an inkstand, a pen, a grate, a coal scuttle, and broken poker, formed the furniture of the guard-room, commenced an investigation of the duties of my position, which led to a further reverie upon my present dignity, and the magnitude of the interests committed to my charge; one of them being a powder-magazine of so ticklish a constitution that the smoking of a pipe in the guard-room, a quarter of a mile off, could not be indulged in without running the risk of blowing up half the town, with a fair proportion of those gun-boats and frigates for which we pay such a tidy little bill every year; and the idea of the bare possibility of the taxes of the country being increased by any such negligence of mine made me shudder. While cogitating in this way, I began to experience certain uneasy sensations in the region of the stomach, which by and by resolved themselves into a yearning for tea, and bread and butter, and in due time it occurred to me that I had not breakfasted. What was to be done? I had not seen my servant before leaving the barrack square, and as I had selected the lad for his honesty rather than

his intelligence, I knew he would never come to look after me without express orders to that effect. I must have patience; but yet, what was the use of that? Patience is a very good thing for the toothache, because one lives in hopes of its going off; but hunger never "goes off."

Well, well, it was no great hardship after all to go without breakfast for once. The worst of it was that the difficulty would recur at dinner time.

These dismal reflections were broken in upon by the sergeant, who appeared at the doorway and asked if I would choose to see the sentries, which I forthwith began to do, and as I varied the amusement by investigations of all the objects of interest in the place, it took me a couple of hours to go the rounds. First of all, I came to a large building where boiler plates were being drilled round the edges with small holes for the rivets, and I stood for a long time watching the punch pressing out the little circular bits of iron with that ease and neatness peculiar to the irresistible power of steam, till a workman of whom I asked some question remarked that "one would think it was going into so much cheese," and the mention of that comestible was too much for a tamed Welshman. Not far from this workshop, I came upon my first sentry, who ported arms and proceeded to repeat his orders, which were printed up in his sentry box. There were under his care a crowbar, which he was to give up when requested to the dockyard police, and a life buoy, which he was to throw to any one whom he saw struggling in the water. He was also to challenge any one who approached his post after dark; to fire off a blank cartridge in case of fire, and above all, to allow no one to smoke either on the wharf or on board the shipping moored off it. All this he repeated in a breath, like a child saying the catechism; and I passed on, and spent half an hour in watching the prodigies performed by a Vulcan hammer, though, if Vulcan can hit half as hard as that, I pity poor Venus when he comes home jealous and nectary. Then came an interview with another sentry; then I watched the process of razeing a three-decker that would not sail into a frigate that would; after which came more sentries, all of whom told their little tale so exactly in the same way that I grew weary, and determined to dodge the next. This was a tall, sturdy, red faced lad, evidently not long from the plough, who, when I came upon him round a corner, was standing gazing into his sentry box, reading the orders there printed up, evidently cramming for his approaching examination. On hearing my footsteps, he faced about and ported his arms.

"Do you know your orders?" said I.

"Eesir," he replied.

"Well, then, if a man fell off that vessel into the water, and you saw that he was drowning, what would you do?"

Poor fellow! I never saw more utter and hopeless bewilderment expressed on mortal face. I repeated the question in as clear and simple a way as I could.

"Give 'un the crowbar!" he at length replied.

I tried to explain the inutility of a crowbar to a drowning man.

"Fire a blank cartridge at 'un!" was his second guess, and I gave him up in despair.

Only after that, I did not walk so close to the edge of the quay as I had been previously doing.

At some little distance from the workshops and dry docks, but close to the water-edge, stood a square, low, windowless stone building, encompassed on the land side by

a dry moat, in which perambulated a marine. This stone building was the Magazine, and as my board of orders directed me to examine whether there were any marks of lucifer matches on the wall, I descended into the moat and commenced a careful scrutiny.

"The door is round here, sir!" cried the astonished sergeant, evidently thinking I was searching for the entrance, which was certainly small. On my rejoining him, he pulled an iron hadle, which produced a distant ghostly tinkle, and it was not without a certain trepidation that I heard a footstep and the jingling of many keys, for I expected, on entering, to find myself in a low dark vault, piled with loose gunpowder, as granary is with corn, and was rather disappointed, although relieved, when the guardian of the place ushered me into an open courtyard, surrounded by stone cells with iron doors. When I had interrogated the sentry who was pacing this court, I was conducted through two gates, which were carefully locked behind us, to a dismal place where were a flight of stone steps leading down to the water, and here another sentry was posted, whom I pitied; for I should not myself like to be locked out from the world by three doors in such a place. But what of the man with the keys, who let me in and conducted me round? Does he live in this place? Has he a wife and family anywhere? Is his life insured? and if so, is it in a fire or life office, and what premium does he pay? Has he ever known the joys of tobacco? Is it lawful for him to feed upon anything more inflammatory than the Revalenta Arabica?

I own that I breathed more freely as, stepping out of the Magazine and taking my sword, which I had had to leave outside, from the sergeant, I bent my steps back to the guard-room.

The walk had been highly interesting; but it had sharpened my appetite wofully.

I had no books, but my predecessor had fortunately left behind him a plentiful supply of writing paper, with which I proceeded to draw up the report which had to be sent in on the following morning, culling the different parts of it from various forms which were hung about the room, with a glorious uncertainty about what was for my own private instruction, and what for the official information of my superiors. This whiled away some time, and then an admiral came into the yard, and the guard turned out in his honour; after which it was time to revisit the sentries; and so the day wore away. Night came, and I was left alone with two tallow dips and my own reflections, which were those of a pike. Yet I might have sat down to a dinner *a la Russe*, for was it not open to me to devour those tallow dips? True; but I am a man who thinks slowly, and must confess that the idea did not occur to me. I was now tired as well as hungry, which would have been the greatest of boons, could I have gone to sleep, but this I could not do, for the field officer might come on his rounds at any minute, and I had made mistakes enough in the morning, without adding to those misdemeanours a lack of vigilance, which would keep a superior waiting at night: so I selected the hardest chair, placed a pebble on it, laid my sword and shako on the table in such a position that they could be caught up at a moment's notice, and commenced a game at tit-tat-toe, single handed; but finding this pastime of my childhood was not so exciting as memory had painted it, I exchanged it for the solution of very hard and long sums. The officer I had relieved in the morning had informed me that the

F. O. generally came at about midnight, so that there was not so much time to kill; and though the hours seemed to be paying me the compliment of approaching in slow time, twelve o'clock came at last. No rounds.

One o'clock. No rounds.

I then remembered that there was a ball going on at the port admirals, and that, most likely, the field officer was there, and would most likely take me on his way home; so, with a sigh at the thought that at that moment he was probably sitting down to supper, I began another sum: "If a major who has dined at seven, and danced till one, can eat two wings of a chicken, three ounces of ham, four plover's eggs and a roll, how much can a subaltern who has fasted for thirty hours eat?"

Two o'clock. The pebble beginning to make itself unpleasant, I unwisely removed it, and almost instantly lost sight of paper and figures.

"Guard, turn out!" cried the sentry.

I jumped up, overturned the table, grasped my sword and shako, which I put on hind-side before, rushed out of the room, and just reached my place in time to receive the F. O. properly.

"All right, sir?" said he.

"All right, sir," said I.

"All present?"

"All present."

"Good-night;" and he turned his horse's head. At that moment an unlucky marine who had been unable, on first waking, to find his musket, came tumbling out of the guard-room and took his place in the ranks. The officer turned upon me like a wasp.

"I thought you said they were all present, sir!" said he.

"I did not see"—I began.

"Then you ought to have seen: mind you are more careful another time."

This was the second time in twenty-four hours that I had been told, before all my men, that I "ought to have seen;" and this time the reprimand came from a man at least five years my junior, for I had recognized an old school-fellow who had been my fag. However, I was too sleepy to suffer much from shame or indignation, so I paid one more visit to my sentries, and threw myself on the truckle-bed, where I slept hard until aroused by an orderly who had come for my report.

Alas, alas! in knocking over the table the night before, I had spilled the ink all over that unhappy document, and there was no time to copy it! It was hurried away, like poor Hamlet's father, with all its blots upon it, and was consequently doomed, like that famous ghost, to wander about and haunt me; for, as it turned out, I had by no means seen the last of that orderly, who kept bringing me curt messages and rejected manuscripts all day. However, he went off for the time, and shortly afterwards the new guard arrived, and soon I was wending my happy way to barracks and to BREAKFAST.

MILITARY CHANGES.—Rumors are already circulated in military circles relative to the prospective changes in the disposition of troops throughout the Province, during the coming season. These changes are usually made in the spring and fall and this year will be principally among the infantry regiments serving in Canada; the changes among the artillery having taken place late last year, it is not thought probable that any will take place for the next eight or nine months at least. Regarding the Infantry Battalions, speculation is rife with antici-

pated changes. Pending the ultimate decision of the Imperial Government as to the strength of the force in Canada for the next year, it is almost certain that the 17th Regt. at present here, will remove to London. The out lying companies of the regiment at Cobourg and other points will be concentrated with Head quarters, on the removal to London taking place. The 4th battalion of the 60th rifles at present stationed at London, will at the same time remove to Point Lewis, where they will be engaged on the fortifications. A regiment at present in Quebec will remove to Montreal to replace the 78th Highlanders who are expected to occupy the place of the 17th in the garrison here. The last named change is not, however, as certain as that determining the removal of the 17th to London. The cavalry will remain as at present stationed, no changes being contemplated in the quartering of of this section of our garrison: in fact, from the difficulty in obtaining barrack room elsewhere, it is a certain matter that they will remain as at present stationed until recalled from the country. No change of troops is contemplated as far as Hamilton and Brantford, the two remaining posts in this district, are concerned; and the movement in the former place, to secure permanent barracks, is taken in military circles as a guarantee that "the ambitious city" will have troops as long as any remain in the district. No authority exists here for the rumour that a company of Royal Engineers is about to proceed to London; and the statement that stone barracks are to be erected is still more doubtful, and as far as known here, undecided. The hope of having the barracks, whatever may be their size, built of stone, is one which our Cockney friends may give up as utterly beyond the thoughts of the military authorities. Stone barracks there would be very costly, and puts the prospect of their being built far into the future.—*Globe*.

WEEKLY SUMMARY.

The last news from Abyssinia is to the effect that the British force has at last come in contact with the enemy, and several skirmishes had taken place; with what result is not stated.

In the House of Commons, on the 14th instant, Earl Mayo, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, asked leave to bring in a Bill to suspend the operations of the Writ of Habeas Corpus for a short time, from the first of March. He said the Fenian leaders had shown an utter disregard of their oaths to the Crown, and stated that out of 268 Fenians who had been arrested, but 95 were Americans. He concluded by saying that, although the Government had succeeded in repressing the rebels, still an extension of its powers was necessary to enable it to complete the work. Leave to bring in the Bill was granted. Lord Stanley laid before the House additional papers on the subject of the Alabama claims. These documents have already been published.

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Feb. 12th, 1868.

BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM MOORETOWN.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Mooretown Mounted Infantry, having received new cavalry accoutrements and Spencer carbines, are now meeting regularly twice a week, and are fast acquiring a knowledge of carbine drill. Six men have volunteered who possess first-class horses, making up this troop to fifty-five, quite enough for any mounted corps. This troop was originally raised as cavalry, and was on service for two months during the Fenian troubles in 1866. The good service they then rendered has been before remarked in the *The Review*, and now that they are being drilled as mounted men all dissatisfaction has vanished, and many of the men are securing good horses for the purposes for which they are intended.

The township has likewise an Infantry Company which keeps well up in numbers. Lately they have had considerable practice at the target, and have made some good scores. The Volunteer spirit in the west is far from being played out. All that is wanted is a more liberal consideration and acknowledgment of their services. Lieut. Col. Moffat, Brigade-Major, inspected both companies on Thursday, the 16th: the troop turned out strong, and were put through the carbine exercise and a number of light cavalry movements by Captain Bridgewater. The Colonel then inspected the clothing and stores, which for safety have been removed to the Captain's residence, expressing himself highly pleased with the manner in which he found them. Captain Lewis then put his men through the manual and platoon exercises in a very creditable manner. The Colonel then addressed the men in encouraging language, stating how pleased he was to find the men so efficient, which was highly important on the frontier. The Mooretown troop possesses a great advantage in having nearly every man within a circuit of two miles of the village; and as they are nearly all young farmers, their horses are in good condition and well adapted for troopers. Thus, in addition to having a cavalry man at their head, is much in their favour. Captain Lewis' men had to travel a long distance.

Inspection over, both companies were invited by their officers to a good dinner. The Mooretown men assembled at 2 o'clock for target practice, when some good shooting took place, the average score with five rounds being 18, at 200 yards.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of *THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW*:

SIR,—During the past autumn, (if my memory serves me right) you stated through the columns of the *Review* that it was in

contemplation to organize a Dominion Rifle Association under the auspices of the Militia Department, since which time, I believe, delegates have been appointed to represent the several Brigade Divisions at a meeting to be held at some place hereafter to be named, the object being to offer such suggestions as they may think necessary to secure the permanency of the association and the cordial support of all classes of the people. You are aware that it will require many months to get an organization of this nature into working order, and with a view of having it fully accomplished before the spring target practice commences, how important it is that the initiatory steps should at once be taken. Last year an effort was made to have Canada represented at the great Wimbledon contest; but owing to the lateness of the season when the subject was mooted, it was impossible to accomplish the object, and until a Dominion Association is organized, and some system adopted to ascertain the best shots in the several Provinces, I fear we may never hope to hear of our Volunteers and other good shots competing for the Queen's Prize.

Yours, &c.

RIFLEMAN.

To the Editor of *THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW*:

SIR,—Outsiders frequently see deficiencies in plans and systems better than those who are deeply engaged in carrying them out, and who should feel obliged for any practical hints that may be tendered them. My views may not be noticed, but as they are both loyal, have a tendency to prevent petty local jealousies, and are the result of practical experience, I shall offer them.

I have seen one part in the present mode of raising Volunteer Companies which has caused much strife and ill feeling, and gone far to make the service very unpopular, where it might, with a little forethought, have been made quite otherwise, and if the future vacancies in this force are to be filled up by drafting, it will fall very hard upon a large portion of our loyal men, and does form a fair looking excuse for the disaffected to shelter themselves under for standing aloof, and render the soldier's duties irksome instead of pleasurable exercises. I will give one instance out of many. In a township not a hundred miles from here, a Volunteer Company—and an exceedingly good one, too—was raised and gazetted some eighteen months ago, and up to this time has been unable to obtain a Drill Shed, although every inducement by Government and County grants has been offered. The men have still to drill in a small room or out of doors. The sole hitch is that the village nearly at one extremity of the township insists that unless built there the Company shall not have one, and so vote. The township is twelve miles long, and at a glance any one can see that young men living at the other extremity would have a

long journey every night to attend drill. If such a clause would be entertained in the Adjutant General's now bill, that all the townships where there is a Company and not at present a Drill Shed, that the same should be built, as schoolhouses in sections are, as near the centre as possible, affording those living at the extremities of a township an equal facility for getting to it: it would prevent this sectional feeling, and tend to promote the welfare and comfort of the Volunteers. This central arrangement will become more necessary if military education becomes general and compulsory. Accommodation for the horses, &c., which take the men to attend drill can as easily be provided as sheds are for those who may take teams to the various churches in rural districts on the Sabbath.

CIVIS.

Guelph, February, 1868.

VOLUNTEERS AND MILITIA.

To the Editor of *THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW*:

As I have not had the privilege of seeing a copy of the new Militia Bill, which is now the cause of so many hopes and fears to the Volunteers of Canada, may I request room in the *Review* for a few ideas which I think will meet with the approval of those who, like myself, have had seven or eight years experience of volunteer soldiering. I have seen a great many articles upon military and militia organization, but none please me so well as the two essays in the *North British Review* of December last and the January number of the *Westminster* for the same year (I recommend them both to our Dominion Legislators, and especially to our Minister of Militia), upon the military systems of Europe. It is an old maxim, and as true as it is old, that the best security for peace, and the best way to insure peace, is to be prepared for war; and as we here in Canada know not the day when we may have to fight for liberty and independence, let us see in what state the country is for defence. Supposing that war was declared by the United States against Britain before May next (and who is there can say that such will not be the case), is the volunteer militia in that state of efficiency that, in conjunction with the regulars, they could defend the country until the arrival of reinforcements or the organization of reserves? I answer, No; very far from it, indeed. In this case, what has the country to fall back upon in case of a reverse? I answer again, nothing. If the volunteers are dissatisfied and inefficient; if there are no reserves, no fresh troops to fill up losses, or upon which to rally broken ones,—who are responsible for such a state of things? You, Mr. Editor, may answer, if you will, the powers who have been managing militia matters since December, 1861. We all remember what a cry was raised over the defeat of the Militia Bill of May, 1862. I do hope sincerely that the same fate is not prepared for the coming

one of March; for it is well known that the Bill of 1862 was not intended to pass. It may look very like heresy to say that there are numbers of men in Canada who would much rather see the country part and parcel of Uncle Sam's dominion than see a shot fired in its defence; who have got large interests in the United States; who are quite willing to enjoy British laws and protection so long as it costs nothing; but who would prefer to see Canada defenceless and an easy prey rather than be at the cost of sustaining a militia force which would involve their service either personally or in pocket.

Now, as the Volunteers are the only troops (the line excepted) the country has available, what is the duty of the Government in the premises? Clearly to get the Volunteers into as good a shape as time will permit, and to organize, without any more shilly shallying, the defences of the country, upon a plan which will combine efficiency with mobility and economy. As it would be impossible in one letter to comprise all that can be said upon the subject, I will confine myself for the present to what is needed to remove the apathy of the Volunteers. Let us see, first, how many there are of them, and how they actually stand.—There are, say, sixty regiments organized, with eight companies to each regiment, and averaging fifty men to each company. Thus you have a force of 30,000 men, which looks very fair upon paper; and upon paper alone does it exist; for there is not a commanding officer of any volunteer battalion in Canada who can conscientiously say that the companies of his regiment average forty men; and then, of these forty, how many are effective? About one half; the other half being made up of recruits and men not drilled. So, taking the force as it really exists, you have not 15,000 effective men in the whole Dominion. Again I ask, whose fault is this? There was a spirit aroused in the country seven years ago, over the Trent affair, with which anything might be done. There was a fresh outburst of the same feeling in June, 1866. Can it be aroused again if there is difficulty over the Alabama claims? and if it can, is it not to be utilized till then, or until disaster shews the country who have been blundering? The Adjutant General has, I believe, done all that a man can do to put the volunteer militia into working order; but what assistance has he got from the powers that be, to put that life and vigour into the system which he knows, and which we all know, it needs. Many suppose here—in Downing street they all believe—that the Adjutant General is omnipotent in the Canadian Militia Department: that like the Centurion of old he says to one man go, and he goeth; and to another, come, and he cometh; and that what he says ought to be done is done at once. It is time that both in Canada and in England we should wake up to the fact that instead of having the militia business of the Dominion managed by a professional soldier,

whose services and experience in the country makes him peculiarly fit for the position and who was specially cut out for it, that instead of his advice being taken and his suggestions acted upon, the Department is managed and controlled by a succession of lawyers, who know no more about the wants and feelings and wishes of the militia than they do of navigation. (I was forgetting, sir, when I made the comparison, that the Minister of Marine is another lawyer.) A number of the correspondents of the Review have asked the question, why are not the Volunteers now doing the sixteen days drill required by law? One would suppose that upon this point at any rate there would be no difficulty, as the drill is made imperative by Act of Parliament; but, if Mrs. Grundy of Ottawa is to be believed, the Adjutant General cannot get the authority to order the drill, intending to give the Volunteers the opportunity, as heretofore, to perform their drill at the season most suitable and convenient for the men, but is met by the reply, there is no money.

But enough of this. Let us now take up the actual position of the individual Volunteer, and compare it with that of the soldier of the line; and to do so we will take a case of daily occurrence, and perform on paper a Volunteer's life for a couple of years. A man joins a volunteer company, of his own accord or at the solicitation of some of its members. He signs the service roll, is sworn in, and forthwith begins to learn his drill. He attends with ordinary regularity the usual weekly drills (when they are carried on), with not much inconvenience in cities and town, but from an average distance of two or three miles in the country. After some six or eight months, as the case may be, he begins to know something of squad drill and company drill, and the manual and platoon exercises. He begins to like it: there is stuff in him for a good soldier, and he thinks the stories he has been told of loss of time and money are all fudge. But some fine day or night, as has happened before, his captain gets an order to report his company for active service.—The men are warned for duty, and a gentle hint is given that all absentees are liable for trial as deserters. Men who have joined but a week, men who may not know their facings, are crowded into the ranks—for what officer is there who does not wish to take a full company. Before they set out, however, there are certain preliminaries to be gone through with, the men must have a change of clothing, in other words they must have a field kit, which means an extra shirt, drawers, socks, boots, towels, brushes—all the necessary articles for personal cleanliness, and all of which an officer who knows his duty will insist upon his men getting, as sickness and disease cannot always be avoided. Now when we remember that the Volunteers as a rule are made up of Mechanics, Farmers and Laborers, in fact of the poorer and working classes, that their officers in-

sist upon their having this kit aforementioned, which is to be well used up or worn out in the service of the country. How do the men get all these things? Those who have money buy, those who have not get them on the credit of the Captain, that gentleman taking very good care to stop the amount from the men's pay. When we know that the ordinary wages of working men are a dollar a day at least, and that while earning this sum they are their own masters, and possibly eating and drinking as good as their employers; when we remember that at a moment's notice they must drop everything and take up soldiering at 25 cts. per day, is it any wonder at all that there is not much life in the Volunteer Militia. But let us proceed—the Company is at last ready to move; the roll is called, the men are present, and off they go for their destination. Are they Volunteers now? Not a bit of it. They are to all intents and purposes (except as regards their knowledge of drill and discipline) Troops of the Line, subject to exactly the same rules and regulations, the same Articles of War and Mutiny Act, as any of Her Majesty's Red Coats. After a month or so, the Company returns home, and our Volunteers find out that soldiering is an expensive amusement, that the cost of his kit and what little necessities he required in Camp or Garrison has used up his twenty-five cents a day—and that he has not money enough to pay his Railroad fare to where he was working when his Company was ordered on service. Many find out too, that their places have been filled and their work taken by others in their absence, and nearly all discover that their service has been given at a deep loss to themselves. They soon begin to find out that there is no reward for good conduct, and long service in the Volunteers, that there is no inducement for them to remain attached to their respective Companies like what is held out to the Regular Soldier. They hear it said, and they see it themselves, that the men who at the sacrifice of time and means have placed themselves for years at the service of their country, are no more thought about, have no more advantage, realize no more in the shape of bounty or reward, than the stay-at-home patriots who shout their loyalty, but take very good care to keep out of the ranks of the Volunteers. Now what does a grateful country give in return for all this? What does the man get who, at the call of duty, throws up his dollar, twelve shillings, or two dollars per day? He gets the loan of a greatcoat and cap, tunic and trowsers, and the above mentioned munificent sum of twenty five cents a day and his rations. Is it any wonder, then, that resignations come in to company officers thick and fast after each return of a company from duty? Is it not rather a wonder that there are any Volunteers in the ranks at all who have experienced for themselves whether what I have written is exaggerated or not? Now

compare the pay, allowances, and inducements to continue in the Volunteer, or *Canadian Regular*, service, with that of the soldier of the line. The British soldier gets a *liberal bounty* and a *free kit*, everything complete and of the best kind, when he enlists and joins his regiment. He gets a new suit of uniform every year, or the price of it if he don't draw it. After two years' service, he gets good conduct pay, in addition to his regular pay, if he deserves it, and this continues to increase after the first two years. After a certain number of years' service, he gets a medal and annuity, and if at the expiration of his first term of service, he enlists again, he gets additional pay with free kit and bounty as before. He has good schools, good library, every opportunity for instruction and amusement, good treatment generally, and though last, not least, a *certain pension*, for injuries received in service, and extra pay in the shape of marching money when on the route, besides other allowances when in the field. Yet our Volunteers are told that they have the same pay and allowances as the Regulars, when on duty. But this letter is getting unreasonably long: in another number, with your permission, I will continue the subject, and in the meantime, I ask the militia men, both men and officers, to take the matter up; to discuss their position with each other and through the press; to make their wants known both to Parliament and the county, remembering that the gods will only help those who help themselves.

ANOTHER VOLUNTEER.

FROM TORONTO.

It seems as if I had nothing but concerts to report for the last month. The last on the list and certainly not the least being that of the "Queen's Own," in aid of their band fund, last Thursday, under the immediate patronage of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. Both as regards attendance and performance it was a splendid success. The Music Hall was fairly jammed and as the reserved seats (numbered) eventually took in all but the two furthest off rows, the fund must have become enlarged considerably: at 75 cents for tickets and programmes, with words, at 10 cents each. The idea of a concert with a dance afterwards certainly takes well in this city. The chief attraction of the evening was of course the concert part of the programme where the committee had the valuable and kind assistance of Mrs. J. B. Robinson, Mrs. Beard, Mr. G. Smith, Col. Hassard, R. E., and several distinguished amateurs who, combined, rendered selections of a superior kind more than usually pleasing. The solo with chorus, "So early in the Morning," by Colonel Hassard and 10 of the "Queen's Own" officers elicited a rapturous encore which was equally appreciated. Although I have exhausted a store of adjectives on the other volunteer bands in this city; still, without flattery, I must yield the

palm to this band as the most accomplished of them all. Their performance of the "Wild Rose" Quadrilles and "Helena" Polka was excellent, and nothing less than a repetition in each instance would satisfy the audience. The "Queen's Own" may well be proud of Bandmaster Robinson and his 22 assistants. After the concert the greater portion remained for dancing which was kept up till the small hours when "God save the Queen" terminated the most successful concert of the season.

On Monday night the energetic non-commissioned officers of the gallant Hussars held a Ball at the Crystal Palace, which passed off splendidly. The decorations, supper and management throughout were A. I. In fact the Hussars never attempt anything without excelling. Among the guests were General Stisted, Col. Jonyns, Captains Fryer and Moorson, A.D.C.S., and many of the leading members of the Regular and Volunteer force.

I wonder what effect will be produced when the Government and Civil Service generally read the statement made by a worthy city Councillor the other evening that "a ton of gunpowder had been stored by the military authorities within a hundred yards of the Parliament Buildings." It is to be hoped no one will presume to make light of the affair as the work of the Government of Ontario is conducted on a cheaper scale than will be ever attempted by any other combination.

To night the 13th Hussars, aided by the Toronto Amateurs, perform at the Theatre for the benefit of the Nova Scotian fishermen.

THE ALABAMA QUESTION.

HISTORICUS' REPLY TO LORD HOBART.

Lord Hobart, referring to the letter of Mr. Seward on this subject recently published, remarks that it seems almost to have escaped public observation, and adds that "it was probably of more importance, so far as the future of his country is concerned, than any similar document published in recent times. It was a dispatch from Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams, dated the 29th November last, and its effect was to break off, for the present at least, the negotiation between this country and the United States respecting the Alabama difficulty. 'The condition,' writes Mr. Seward, 'being inadmissible, the proposed limited reference' (to arbitration) 'is therefore declined.'"

To the Editor of the Times.

I have read with much regret the letter addressed to you by Lord Hobart on the present situation of the controversy with respect to the Alabama Claims—first, because I am sorry to find myself so widely at variance with a person for whom I entertain a sincere respect; and, secondly, because it seems to me that Lord Hobart's letter has a tendency to weaken the hands of the Government and the position of the country on a subject where both appear to be entitled to the most cordial support.

Lord Hobart thinks that Lord Stanley has been wrong in not consenting to a reference to a tribunal on the terms insisted upon by Mr. Seward. He divides his argument into two branches, one founded on the hypothesis that the arbitration demanded by Mr. Seward is one which is to determine the question whether the Queen's Proclamation of Neutrality of May 13, 1861, was or was not a wrong done to the United States for which they are entitled to reparation: the others founded on the assumption that Mr. Seward does not, in fact, demand that the arbitration should determine this question.

It is very essential to make up our minds which of these two assumptions is the correct one. I confess I have myself no doubt whatever about the matter. It is impossible to read Mr. Seward's despatch of August 27, 1866, to Lord Stanley, (Parliamentary paper, North America, No. 1) without seeing at once that the question of the recognition of the belligerent rights of the South by Great Britain is the fundamental and primary grievance complained of, and that all the rest are regarded as mere subordinate and necessary matters, speaking of the Alabama and other vessels, Mr. Seward says:—

"Without descending on this occasion so far as to insist, as we have always insisted, that there was a deficiency of energy in the respect adverted to, you may remind Lord Stanley that in the view which we have taken of the subject the misconduct of the aggressors was direct and legitimate fruit of the premature and injurious proclamation of belligerency against which we had protested, and that the failure of her Majesty's Government to prevent or counteract the aggression of British subjects was equally traceable to the same unfortunate cause."

It is plain from this passage that Mr. Seward regards the question "whether there was a deficiency of energy" in respect of the measures taken to stop these vessels as a wholly secondary matter; that the main ground on which he takes his stand is the primary and principal wrong consisting in the recognition of belligerent rights, to which he treats all the rest as merely consequential. It is impossible, I think, to read Mr. Seward's despatches of August 27, 1867, and January 12, 1867, without feeling strongly that if Lord Stanley did not intend to submit to arbitration the question whether the Queen's Proclamation of Neutrality was a wrong to America—and that not as an incidental and subordinate, but as a primary and principal question—he was bound to do what he did—viz., expressly to decline to make this question part of the reference. No prudent statesman or lawyer who knows the danger of loose arbitration will ever consent to have any ambiguity as to the terms of the order of reference; and, after the language of Mr. Seward, to have done so in this case would have been the height of folly.

Mr. Seward at the close of his despatch of January 12, 1867, says:—

"The United States would expect to refer the whole controversy just as it is found in the correspondence which has taken place between the two Governments, with such further evidence and arguments as either party may desire, without imposing restrictions, conditions, or limitations upon the umpire, and without waiving any principal or argument on either side."

But what is the whole controversy? That is just the question. If the recognition of belligerent rights is not part of the controversy, *cadit questio*. But if, on the other hand, it is in the view of the American Gov-

ornment the principal part of the controversy, how can it be contended that they do not demand that this question is to form part of the arbitration? It is quite obvious that, having regard to the ground on which Mr. Seward puts the whole claim for indemnity, the first point the arbitrator would be called on to decide would be whether the recognition of belligerent rights, which is made the fundamental basis of the claims, was or was not justifiable.

I therefore dismiss as wholly untenable the hypothesis that the American Government has not, in fact, demanded that the conduct of England in the recognition of the belligerent rights of the South shall be made a subject of arbitration. Indeed, I cannot understand how any one who has read the recent correspondence can come to any other conclusion than that, it is the only question which they really care to raise at all.

But then there still remains the question, is this demand of the American Government one which ought to have been conceded? And here I regret to find myself as directly at issue in point of opinion with Lord Hobart as I am on the other part of the question in respect of matters of fact. It is said some times, with a false appearance of plausibility, that the more right you are the more you ought to be willing to consent to arbitration. This is a mere sophism. There are many questions which a man or a nation that is perfectly, clearly in the right, ought not to submit to arbitration. Suppose we were asked by the American Government to submit to arbitration the question of the right of the British Crown to Canada, or Jamaica, or Ireland. Would any sane minister assent to the demand? Or would it be any argument in favour of submitting to such an arbitration that the decision must be in our favour? The real truth is that the rule of common sense and common practice is exactly the opposite. Just men are willing to refer to arbitration questions upon which other persons may entertain a reasonable doubt, but not those upon which there can be no doubt at all. I will just put this test question—If America, or any foreign Government, were to demand that we should submit to arbitration this question, "Is England entitled to exercise the rights of an independent nation?" is there any man who will say that the English Government should assent to such a reference because it is probable, or even certain, that we should succeed upon this issue?"

Now, the particular case of the Alabama, and it may be of other vessels, I think, and I have always thought, is one which might be very fairly made the subject of arbitration. I have my own strong opinion that no impartial tribunal could pronounce in favour of the American claims of indemnity. But I can conceive persons entertaining a very reasonable doubt on the two points which might fairly be raised, namely,—1st, whether the English Government took proper precaution, and exhibited adequate vigilance; and 2nd, whether, if they did not, indemnity was due. I will not go into any argument upon these points now; I have dealt with both formerly at great length. These are the points which Lord Stanley has expressed himself willing to refer to arbitration, and these are the points upon which Mr. Seward has refused arbitration (perhaps because he was conscious of the weakness of his case) unless the arbitration were, in fact, to be founded on the question whether the recognition of belligerent rights was not the primary wrong, from which the rest were only derivative accidents.

Now, Sir, is the question of the right and

the propriety of the recognition of the belligerent rights of the South by Great Britain on May 13, 1861, a matter upon which any reasonable person can or does entertain the smallest doubt? It is a matter upon which no statesman, no jurist, no sane man, I may say, in Europe has ever entertained any doubt whatever. But let us see how American authority stands upon this question. The individual position of Mr. Seward with reference to it will be found to be most singular. I do not know that public attention has been directed to it yet as clearly as it deserves to be. In his recent correspondence Mr. Seward says:—

"A domestic disturbance arose in the country, which, although it had severe peculiarities, yet was, in fact, only such a seditious insurrection as is incidental to natural progress in every State."

And again in the same dispatch:—

"While as yet the civil war was undeveloped and the insurgents were without any organized military force or a treasury, and long before they pretended to have a flag or to put either an armed ship or even a merchant vessel upon the sea, Her Majesty's Government acting precipitately, as we have always complained, proclaimed the insurgents a belligerent power."

And in his final dispatch of the 12th of January, 1867, in answer to Lord Stanley's argument on this point, Mr. Seward says:—

"Before the Queen's proclamation of neutrality the disturbance in the United States was merely a local insurrection. It wanted the name of war to enable it to be a civil war (mark the words), and to live endowed as such with maritime and other belligerent rights. Without that authorized name it must die, and was expected not to live and be a flagrant civil war, but to perish a mere insurrection. It was therefore not without lawful and wise design that the President declined to confer upon the insurrection the pregnant baptismal name of civil war, to the prejudice of the nation whose destiny was in his hands. What the President thus wisely and humanely declined to do, the Queen of Great Britain too promptly performed. She baptized the slave insurrection within the United States a civil war; and thus, so far as the British nation and its influence could go, gave it a name to live and flourish and triumph over the American Union."

This is Mr. Seward's statement of the case in 1867. He says that but for the English proclamation of neutrality there would never have been civil war in the United States; that it was England who gave it the name of war; and that but for our "intervention" it would have been a mere domestic insurrection with which the world would have had nothing to do. Now, let us see what was the language of the writer of these dispatches in 1861, at the time when these events were in progress. On May 4th, 1861—that is, nine days before the English proclamation of neutrality was put forth—Mr. Seward writes to Mr. Dayton, the American Minister in Paris:—

"The insurgents have instituted revolution with open, flagrant, deadly war, to compel the United States to acquiesce in the dismemberment of the Union. The United States have accepted this civil war as an inevitable necessity."

This paper is a record laid on the table of Congress, circulated through the world, and yet the man who wrote it now says that on May 13, 1861, "the disturbance in the United States was merely a local insurrection;" that "it wanted the name of war to enable it to be a civil war and to live; that "without that authorized name it might die, and was not expected to live and be a flagrant

civil war," and that "the President declined to confer upon the insurrection the pregnant baptismal name of civil war, to the prejudice of the nation whose destiny was in his hands," but that this was done by "the Queen of England, who baptized the slave insurrection within the United States a civil war."

Will any man who reads the dispatch of May 4, 1861, deny, if the "local insurrection" wanted the name of war to make it a civil war," that long before the "Queen of Great Britain too promptly performed the office," the "pregnant baptismal name" of "open, flagrant, deadly war" had been bestowed upon it by Mr. Seward, who now charges against England as a wrong, for which he demands reparation, the very act which he had performed nine days before? On May 4th, Mr. Seward writes officially,— "The United States have accepted this civil war as an inevitable necessity." But for the Queen of Great Britain to affirm on May 13th that a civil war had been accepted by the United States is a wrong, forsooth, for which England is to pay an indemnity!

I might multiply similar quotations to any extent, but I will only take one more, which, I think, will put the matter in as clear a light as any other. Every one is acquainted with the conclusive argument derived from the blockade proclaimed by the President in April, 1861. Mr. Seward has spent half his time and exhausted all his ingenuity in an attempt to escape from the consequences of this first capital blunder of his administration. In spite of the solemn decision of the Supreme Court on the point, it now suits him to declare that at the time these proclamations were issued, they were not acts of war, but simply acts of domestic authority in closing the ports. He writes in his despatch of the 12th of January, 1867:

"The disturbance being, at the time referred to, officially and legally held by the Government of the United States to be a local insurrection, this Government had a right to close the ports in the States within the scene of insurrection by municipal law, and to forbid strangers from all intercourse therewith, and to use the armed and naval forces for that purpose. A blockade was legitimately declared to that end; and until the state of civil war should actually have developed, the existence of a blockade would have conferred no belligerent rights on the insurgents."

All this I need hardly say is mere nonsense. A blockade which confers a right to seize neutral vessels on the high seas cannot be "legitimately declared to the end" of closing ports by municipal law. It is hardly necessary to point out the absurdity of asserting that the "blockade would have conferred no belligerent rights on the insurgents until the state of civil war should actually have developed," the fact being that until a war of some kind had developed there could have been no right to declare a blockade at all. But it is the less requisite to insist on this because, as we have already seen, Mr. Seward says, on May 4, that "open, deadly, flagrant civil war" did exist, and therefore, by his own admission at that date, at least, the proclamation must have conferred belligerent rights on the insurgents. These are just the sort of absurdities into which a man falls when he forces himself to argue against reason and common sense.

But let us turn once more from Mr. Seward, in 1867, when he is trying to give his own colour to the facts, to Mr. Seward in 1861, when he is dealing with the facts themselves. The Spanish Minister at that time writes to ask Mr. Seward for some explanation of the

(For continuation see 11 page.)

CLUBS! CLUBS! CLUBS!

1868.] THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW. [1868.

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FOR THE

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TO CORRESPONDENTS:

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Correspondents must invariably 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, rifle 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.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

Mr. DAWSON KERR, on the 1st day of February, instant, having purchased THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW from Mr. GEORGE MOSS, will henceforth conduct the paper on the same principles as have been observed by its late proprietor, and hopes by strict attention to it, to secure in the future a continuance of that success which the paper has met with since its commencement.

NOTICE.

IN connection with the sale and transfer of the "VOLUNTEER REVIEW" to Mr. Dawson Kerr, the undersigned begs to give notice that all money due to the paper on account of subscriptions are payable to the said Dawson Kerr; but that all accounts for advertising, up to the 1st of January, 1868, must be settled with

GEORGE MOSS.

* Ottawa, February 1st, 1868.

**The Volunteer Review,**

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

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

OTTAWA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1868.

NAVAL DEFENCE OF CANADA.**NUMBER 5.**

Having in the preceding papers fully discussed the naval defences of Canada on her lacustrine frontiers, it will be necessary to notice the offensive operations to which those previously described are fitting corollaries. It is hardly necessary to remind the readers of the REVIEW that the whole system is based on the fact of British naval supremacy, about which there cannot be any possible question, for the good and sufficient reason that the moment the sovereignty of the seas is lost the British Empire ceases to

exist, and the independence of Canada would be a matter of negotiation. Without, however, speculating on theories or their final development, the fact is incontestible, that in the event of hostilities with the United States an English fleet would command the seaboard from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico; and on its offensive operations the successful defence of Canada depends. The sea coast of the United States is singularly accessible to naval operations for aggressive purposes, and these are further facilitated by the river system of that country; approaching within comparatively trifling distances of the great lakes, generally navigable for vessels of the largest class to the principal strategic points. Thus, the Hudson is navigable to Albany, within sixty miles of Lake George, from which point one hundred and twenty-four miles of navigable water through that lake and Champlain reaches Rouse's Point, on the southern frontier of Canada, forty-five miles from Montreal. These lakes are connected with the Hudson and St. Lawrence by canals. The Champlain Canal, from Albany to Lake George, has twenty locks, of one hundred and ten feet extreme length by eighteen feet extreme width, and can be navigated by vessels of ninety tons burthen, the depth of water on lock sills being four feet. The Richelieu River, at the confluence of the Lakes Champlain and St. George, joins the St. Lawrence six miles below Montreal: it is rendered navigable by an artificial canal twelve miles in length; at Chambly it has ten locks, each one hundred and twenty feet in length, twenty feet wide, with six feet water on the sills: it passes vessels of one hundred and fifty tons burthen. A system of railway communication, centring in Albany, passes along the east shores of the lakes and terminates at Montreal: it penetrates the States of Vermont and Massachusetts. From Albany, northward, the Erie Canal continues the navigation to Oswego, on the southern shore of Lake Ontario, over three hundred miles westward of Montreal. Its length is two hundred and three miles, and it has sixty-five locks, each one hundred and ten feet in length by eighteen feet wide, with seven feet water on sills of locks: it is navigable for vessels of two hundred tons. The main branch of this canal extends to Buffalo, on Lake Erie, three hundred and fifty miles from Albany and one hundred and eighty-five from Syracuse, where the Oswego line branches off: it has twenty-four locks of similar dimensions, and affords access to the Upper Lakes. Main lines of railway run parallel to this line of navigation, and the naval occupation of the Hudson would place the whole communication of New York and the Eastern States, with the Western States, in the hands of the aggressors. Two thousand miles southward of the Hudson, the Mississippi discharges its mighty volume of water into the Gulf of Mexico. It is navigable for large vessels to St. Louis, 1330 miles from

its mouth, at which point it is within three hundred and fifty miles of the southern end of Lake Michigan, at Chicago, with which it is connected by the Illinois Canal, which is of small dimensions, navigable by vessels of ninety tons drawing four feet of water. A system of railways centering at Chicago and extending to the various opulent cities on the Mississippi would be controlled by the occupation of that river; and the command of Lake Michigan for the Canada side would complete a system of operations whose effect would be to place in the hands of the invaders the whole resources, communications and defences of the States east of the Mississippi. It is not necessary to take into account the affluents of that river with relation to the communications with the Great Lakes, nor of the operations which would be necessary on the Potomac and other navigable streams. The great strategic points are the Hudson and the Mississippi; the former as far as Albany, the latter as far as St. Louis: all other points are merely subsidiary. With ironclad vessels adapted to the navigation of rivers and properly armed, no particular difficulty need be encountered in effecting the objects sketched out. Under the old regime, when shore batteries were to be dreaded, the successful occupation of the Potomac, a narrow and difficult river to navigate with sailing vessels, alone was looked on as no extraordinary feat, and the disaster at New Orleans would have been averted if the fleet had dashed at the city, passing the shore batteries without delay. While the turning of these defences will as effectually secure their evacuation as the process of blowing them to pieces, it is much easier and cheaper to perform the simple evolution of running past, which, thanks to steam, can be effected without wind or tide.

It is evident from the consideration of the foregoing that the defence of Canada can be best accomplished by a naval invasion of the United States on such a scale as would render success certain, combined with an offensive movement on the Great Lakes. Without underrating the power and resources of the United States, it is very evident that she would be compelled in the event of a war with Great Britain to act on the defensive on her southern and northern frontiers. The preponderance of her population might enable her to act on the aggressive as far as Canada is concerned; but she would have to fight a whole population on their own ground, in a country peculiarly difficult of access to a military force. The experience derived in the campaign of 1812-15 are decidedly against the idea of successful invasion for the remainder of the century. Viewing the whole matter as a question of strategy, it is evident that the United States would fail in a successful invasion of Canada under existing circumstances; but in the event of a general European embroilment, the inducement to use a good opportunity would be sufficiently captivating; therefore the necessity for this

country being thoroughly prepared for any eventuality. The value of the British American Provinces to the United States is apparent in connection with this question. Occupying an independent position, they operate as a check on the growth of American power and the diffusion of its peculiar political institutions and ideas. In the event of war, they lessen the power of the States for offence or defence by one half, and consequently diminish the greatness they would otherwise attain to; in fact, the American people can never obtain dominant power on this continent while these Provinces retain independence. It is an undeniable fact that neither their political or commercial interests are identical with those of the States,—both prosper best when apart, and the working out of the future destinies of the people of these colonies must be their own especial act. The day for peaceable or forcible annexation has passed; the interests of the Provinces and the Empire are identical, their union indissoluble, and no event can possibly sever the connection except the common fall of both. English political philosophers had better turn their attention to the full development of their naval strength—the sure means of preserving the integrity of the British Empire—and allow the people of these Provinces to judge and choose for themselves. Canada is England's safeguard; as long as she can retain it, her naval supremacy will be intact, and the integrity of her Empire assured.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

Reams of paper and seas of ink have been expended in the vain effort to adjust the differences existing between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States upon the subject of these "claims." From the extraordinary course pursued by Mr. Seward in this controversy, it seems as if it were no part of his intention that a settlement should be arrived at; for by continually shifting his ground, he has managed to keep the question an open one, and by every fresh move seems to seek to render it more difficult of solution.

Lately this question has been brought prominently before the public by the letters of "Historicus" and Lord Hobart in the *London Times*. The former takes strong ground in support of Lord Stanley's decision not to submit to arbitration the question whether the recognition of the belligerent rights of the South, was a grievance of which the United States may justly complain. And his views are stated in a style at once terse and able. He shows conclusively that Mr. Seward admitted away his case at the very outset; and proves that it was the Government at Washington that first conceded belligerent rights to the revolted States. In fact neither President Lincoln nor any of his cabinet had any very clear ideas upon the legal aspect of the case at the time of the

Proclamation of the Blockade of Southern ports; but if the United States Government blundered through ignorance or otherwise is the Government of Great Britain to be held responsible for acting upon the conditions created by that blunder? It would certainly have been very unfair for the latter to withhold its recognition of the Confederacy when such recognition had been freely made by the power with whom it was at war. But it is not on this ground alone that Lord Stanley is justified in declining to submit this question to arbitration; and the opinion of the English press is singularly unanimous in upholding his views. With nations as with individuals there are cases in which it would be dishonorable to descend to justification. The right which one power has to recognise another is one of these, and if England were to admit the justice of the American claim to interfere in this right, then she might bid good bye to the position she has maintained for centuries—sell her fleet, disband her army and no longer pretend to the position of a power upon earth. This is the real question at issue and we cannot perceive how Great Britain could submit a right, inherently hers in virtue of her position as an independent power, to arbitration. What a poor apology for Government would that be which would be compelled to justify its action upon the current questions of the day, or how could the Queen's rule be held with independence, resolution and honor under such conditions. The opinions advanced by Lord Hobart are such as we never thought it possible could be entertained by a British nobleman, and the miserable plea he sets up is as pusillanimous as can well be conceived,—to appeal to the nation from motives of fear is not, we are inclined to think, the best way to induce John Bull to relinquish his right. The question as it stands at present is set forth very fairly in the following extract which we take from an article which appeared in the *New York Express*:

"Even Mr. Seward has not held that any act of Great Britain made that a war which was not a war, or gave a higher status to an insurrection than we allowed it. To-day, this would be to admit that a foreign power by a proclamation of neutrality could affect our internal conclusions, a conclusion shocking to the pride of every true American. Mr. Seward's words may seem to imply that Great Britain had a right to grant belligerent rights to the South, and when we remember the time and manner in which he offered to make the United States parties to the treaty of Paris, in order that he might avail of the clause which declared privateering abolished, and thus commit the great powers to putting down Southern privateers, we are not sure that he does hold these views, although they would involve the denial of the right to neutrality.

"But supposing that Lord Stanley were willing to submit to arbitration the question of the legal or moral right of granting belligerent rights. If the decision were in his favor, then the other question would come up in regular order. But suppose the decision were the other way, namely that Great Britain had no just grounds for granting

these rights—what would follow? Clearly, that all subsequent proceedings were illegal, and the Alabama claims must be admitted without further discussion. Such a decision would also quite as clearly involve that between the North and South there was no such rights, for it would be absurd to assert that such rights existed, and the Foreign Powers might not recognize their existence.

"Now, the chief belligerent rights which affect this question are those of blockade, and the right, under certain circumstances, of seizure on the high seas. If an umpire decided that from the nature of our civil struggle no such rights were created, where should we stand? Why, that every capture of a blockade runner was illegal, and that for every such vessel sunk or destroyed the United States must indemnify the owners. Would not Great Britain in such a case have an overwhelming offset against the Alabama claims? But again, our courts of highest jurisdiction have again and again decided prize cases under the laws of war, and yet Mr. Seward would submit to an arbitration whether there really was any war after the courts have decided repeatedly that there was.

"Lord Stanley claims as a postulate that a state of war actually existed, between the Northern and the seceding States, and with every decision of our courts, and the whole course of legislation during the past three years in favor of his position, it is difficult to see what, except delay, Mr. Seward can gain by refusing to accede to this. The United States Court gains nothing, which ever way the question be decided, except a mass of perplexities and contradictions. Great Britain could gain a good deal; but then in sweeping away any defence for the outrages of the Alabama, and other vessels, she would claim an enormous offset which we might not be likely to admit, and thus open up fresh issues and new embarrassments. Everything shows that Great Britain honestly wishes these irritating questions settled, and if any damages are awarded to pay them and get quit of the matter, and profit for the future by the lesson we have taught her. The question now is, is the obstacle that Mr. Seward has interposed a fair and honest one. Can he have any lurking fears that the award would not be altogether in his favor, and in so far as it fell short of his claims, leave him shorn of so much glory."

This is all very fair and candid enough, and deals with the matter in a spirit which we wish was more in vogue among our neighbors. We do not and never did believe that the United States Government entertained any serious intentions of getting up a quarrel with Great Britain upon this question. But when we come to regard this matter in relation to the peculiar exigencies of American party politics, it assumes an aspect which throws considerable light upon the persistent urging of these "claims," and there can be little doubt but that the main spring is an electioneering dodge acted by a little of that stockjobbing always going on in the vicinity of the Capitol. When this matter has been made to serve the uses for which its agitation was intended, it will die away like others of past Presidential electioneering moves, and we will hear no more of the "Alabama claims."

It is reported that a great pan-slavic conspiracy, against the Austrian Empire, has been discovered in Hungary.

LORD RANELAGH AND THE ENGLISH VOLUNTEERS.

A bombshell has been hurled into the camp of the British Volunteers, and that from the hands of one of the first and most prominent members of the force. The facts are, that on the occasion of the distribution of the prizes of the Queen's (Westminster) Volunteers, about the end of last month, Lord Ranelagh declared that the Volunteers of Great Britain are 'a mere sham, and as an army, not worth the flip of his fingers.' This broad assertion, coming from the lips of one who was always regarded as an enthusiastic Volunteer, and who was thought rather inclined to place too high a value upon the Volunteer force, was received with no little astonishment by his brethren in arms. This remark was immediately taken hold of by a portion of the English press, who, for some reason, have shown a great antipathy to the Volunteers, and a great deal more made of it than we are sure its author intended. For some time previous, there had been a great deal of discussion upon the merits of the Volunteer force, arising out of the defeat of the Garibaldiens by the French at Mentana, upon which we made some remarks at the time. And it was openly asserted in many influential papers, that were the British Volunteer army placed in a like situation they would share a like fate as that which befel the followers of the Liberator.

The fallacy of this assertion was well and ably proved at the time, and we merely refer to it now in connection with this last astounding hit at the national Institution. The circumstances which led to the defeat of the Garibaldiens were such as never could befall a British Volunteer force; and all the depreciatory remarks of adverse journalists could have but little influence upon the subject of Volunteer organisation when it was well known that they were but superficially acquainted with the matter on which they treated. But when one occupying a position and wielding an influence like that possessed by Lord Ranelagh gives color and consistency to the foregone assertions, it would be well to make a closer inquiry into the bearing of the questions involved by his remarks. No doubt he had the good of the Volunteers at heart when he made the remark and when he published subsequently his communication upon the same subject in the columns of the *Daily Telegraph*, for we find him endeavoring to set himself right with the Volunteers in a letter published in the *Volunteer Service Gazette* of January 25th, in which he says that the epithet "sham" was not applied by him to the Volunteers; he further remarks:—"I distinctly, and decidedly used it as applicable only to the "Volunteer force as an army. For the Volunteers; either as battalions, regiments, or companies, I entertain and have always entertained, the very highest opinion. It is because I feel their worth to be so great

"that I the more lament the invidious and "impotent position in which they are allowed to remain." If the object of the noble Lord was to provoke discussion, which we are assured it was, for the ultimate good of the force, he has certainly succeeded in the leading portion of his intention, but we must say he has taken a very odd way of securing the latter object.

As our Volunteer system in Canada is to a great extent formed upon the English model, anything which affects the force in Great Britain must naturally bear upon us, it would be well if, at this particular time, we were to consider this subject carefully. In England the Volunteer system receives its greatest encouragement and support from the wealthy and aristocratic classes, while we in Canada must depend upon, first the good will and patriotism of the people, and secondly upon such support and assistance as can be given by the Government. This state of affairs naturally entails upon a portion of the people a task which is no light addition to the burthen of every day cares. So that candidly speaking the Volunteers of Canada are not in as good a position as those of England, so that if the words of Lord Ranelagh be true in reference to the latter, how will they apply to the former? The Volunteers of Canada, in the event of hostilities, must form her main reliance, and the many defects at present existing in our organisation are in fact the very same as those which led Lord Ranelagh to designate the British Volunteer army "a sham." The principal defect pointed out is the want of transport and commissariat supplies, with ambulances and all the other requisite paraphernalia of an army in condition to take the field. And if these are indispensable to the Volunteer force in England, where the danger of invasion is the remotest of possible contingencies, how much more so are they to the Volunteer army of Canada, which may at any moment be called upon to take the field and engage in actual warfare? Another defect is the want of organisation in Battalions and Brigades that the force may become acquainted with, and accustomed to movements in large masses. These and all the details necessarily connected with the proper development of the Volunteer force in Canada, are matters which it is to be presumed will be provided for by the new Militia Law, and it is to be hoped they will be wisely dealt with. The people will do their part, and it rests with the Legislature to make, by liberal action, the Volunteers of Canada fit, as they are willing, to do all that may be required of them, if ever they should unfortunately be compelled to take the field in defence of their "altars and hearths."

In the present issue we publish the first of the now famous letters of HISTORICUS upon the "Alabama claims" question. It deals with the matter in a thoroughly conclusive and logical manner. Next week we will give his second letter which appeared in the *London Times* under date of January 21st.

(Continued from page 7.)

character of the blockade. Mr. Seward pens his reply on May 2—i. e., 11 days before the Queen's proclamation of neutrality. He says:—

"In acknowledging the receipt of your note of the 30th ult., on the subject of the blockade of the ports in several of the States, I deem it proper to state for your information:—

"1. That the blockade will be strictly enforced upon the principles recognized by the law of nations.

"2. That armed vessels of neutral states will have right to enter and depart from the interdicted ports."

Now, observe, first of all, the blockade was not, as Mr. Seward now pretends, a municipal closing of the ports; it was a blockade on the principles recognized by the law of nations," and the fundamental principle of that law is that no blockade can be declared except where a war exists.

But, again, what is the meaning of the words "neutral States?" Mr. Seward writes to the same effect to Lord Lyons on May 9:—"It will be seen that there are yet five or six days for neutrals to leave."

It is not a little amusing to see how the "neutrals" of the "blockade" of 1861 became the "strangers" of the "closing of the ports" in 1867. On May 2, 1861, no Government had issued a proclamation of neutrality, why does Mr. Seward talk of "neutrals?" Why but because the word "neutrals" flowed to his pen spontaneously as the natural and necessary result of a state of "open, flagrant civil war," and of a "blockade to be enforced on the principles recognized by the law of nations?" If there was no war, and if there were no belligerents on May 2 and May 9, 1861, how came Mr. Seward at these dates to be treating all foreign States as "neutrals?" Who first uttered that terrible and odious word, "neutral-ity," for which we are now called to account; who first "baptised" England as a "neutral?" Was it Mr. Seward, in his official despatches on May 2 and May 9; or was it the Queen of England, in her proclamation of neutrality, on May 13? If Mr. Seward could inform the English minister on May 9 that in five or six days all neutrals would have to leave, how comes it to be such a hostile act on the part of the English Government to issue a proclamation of neutrality four days after? Has Mr. Seward ever read the fable of the wolf and the lamb? We can perhaps hardly be surprised that Mr. Seward maintains that the blockade is no proof of war, since he contends that there might be neutrals, but there ought to have been no neutrality. The question, in short, which Mr. Seward wants us to refer to arbitration is whether, when he served a notice on us as neutrals, we were entitled to issue a proclamation of neutrality.

I think, after this review of Mr. Seward's language in 1861 and 1867, I am entitled to ask whether the annals of the intercourse of civilized nations present any example of a similar contradiction between the language of the same minister with reference to the same facts at different objects? I cite these passages not mainly as a revelation of Mr. Seward's ideas of diplomatic consistency; I adduce them as a proof that this is a question on which we cannot be expected to submit to arbitration. No man is entitled to call upon you to submit a question to arbitration when you hold under his own hand the admission that his claim is unfounded. I cite these despatches of Mr. Seward to prove that not only in Europe, but in America, there was no one who doubted—and least of all did Mr. Seward doubt—that a civil war

in the fullest sense of the word existed before the English proclamation of neutrality was published, that that proclamation was consequently justifiable and necessary, and that the assertion that it created the American civil war is one which is too absurd to be made the foundation of a reasonable claim for arbitration.

If this letter were not already too long, I might point out the singular absurdity of mixing up the question of the recognition of belligerent rights with the claims in the case of the Alabama. Even Mr. Seward hardly pretends that at the time the Alabama sailed civil war did not exist, and that the United States had not treated the South as belligerents. The "premature recognition then, even if it was a sound ground of complaint, could have nothing in the world to do with the case of the Alabama.

There is another point which seems to have escaped Mr. Seward's acuteness. If there was no war, there was no right of belligerent capture. Consequently, all the American condemnations of English vessels for breach of blockade, contraband, &c., are illegal; and therefore all these captures must be restored, with costs and damages. I really hardly know why, on this footing, we should not take Mr. Seward on his own ground, for the balance of compensation due would be immensely in our favour.

Sir, no man values at a higher rate than I do the friendship of America. I hope, as far as it has come within my sphere, I have done what I could to contribute to the maintenance of that friendship. But the friendship of nations, like that of individuals, can only be safely and permanently founded on the basis of mutual respect. Where we are wrong, let us confess it; where the question is doubtful let us refer it; where we are clearly in the right let us assert that right like men. I think I know something of the American people, and I am sure that it is not by timidity or vacillation that you can win their friendship or purchase their respect. Their own position among mankind is due to the astonishing fortitude with which in circumstances of weakness and difficulty they have ever vindicated the rights of an independent nation. They respect in others what has constituted their own greatness. I believe that a war between England and America would be the greatest calamity which can befall not only either nation, but the whole of mankind. But depend upon it, Sir, in a great cause timidity is not the path which leads to peace. Danger, like death, pursues those who fly it most:—

"Mors et fugacem persequitur vitam
Nec parci timellus juvenem
Populibus timidoque tergo."

If the Government of the United States quarrels with us on the question of the recognition of belligerent rights, it can only be because they are determined in any event to quarrel with us. I do not belong to the political party of which Lord Stanley is an eminent ornament. But on the question where the reputation and the safety of the country are involved I can recognise no distinction of party. I see in the Government of the Queen nothing else but the legitimate representative and guardian of the honour of the English nation. I believe that on this question the Government are emphatically in the right. I, therefore, protest against anything which may tend to weaken their hands or to impair their credit.

Nothing is more likely than such a course to produce the very evils which persons like Lord Hobart desire to avert. It encourages a belief that the opinion of England is distracted, and incites the American Government to hope that by persisting in such claims they will ultimately prevail. In off-

ering fair terms of accommodation on every point which could be regarded as doubtful, and opposing a firm front to unjust and unreasonable demands, the Government have done their duty by the nation, and earnestly hope that they will receive the support they are entitled to expect from a just and a courageous people.

January 18th.

HISTORICS.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

During the week ending Feb. 15th, we have received, on account of subscriptions, as follows:—

TORONTO.—Gen. S., C.B., \$2; Lt.-Col. G., \$2; Major F. E. D., \$2; Capt. P., F.B., \$2; Ensign R. Y. E., \$2; J. S. McD., \$1; Dr. L., \$2; Capt. E., 25 cts.; Lt. W. D. R., 25 cts.; H. J., 25 cts.; Lt.-Col. R. S. S., \$2.25; Ensign H. S., \$2; Lt. W. J. R., \$1; Lt. D., \$2.

HAMILTON.—Capt. C. A., \$2; J. A., \$1; Lt. J. J. M., L.M., \$2; Lt.-Col. V.B.M., \$2; Col. Sergt. W. S., \$1; Captain G. B. S., F.B., \$2; Mr. J. H. R., \$2; Dr. T. W., (Sur. F.B.), \$2; Sergt.-Major J. B., 50 cts.; Alex. I., \$1.

ANCASTER, (Ont.)—Lieut. W. D., \$2.

GUELPH.—Capt. H. H. S., \$2.

METCALFE, (Osgoode)—Lieut. J. H., \$1.

ALTON.—Dr. J. K. R., \$2.

BRANTFORD.—W. P., \$1.

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.

CIVIS, Guelph.—Thanks. Your remarks are just and pertinent: local jealousies should not be allowed to interfere with the matter of Volunteer accommodation.

MR. B., Ottawa.—The article is being translated, and will appear in our next.—We would be obliged for more of the same kind.

I. C., Hamilton.—Will be very happy to see you, and rectify the mistakes of which you complain.

W. P., Brantford.—If you send us the date of the missing number, we will try and supply it.

Admiral Farragut has been *felet* in Florence, and the Italian Journals insist that he is there on some mission of great importance. It is feared there is not now the remotest prospect of that evacuation by France of the Roman States which the Queen was advised to say in her speech last November was desirable. Civita Vecchia is being fortified as if it were a permanent French possession; under the pretence of sanitary considerations, Viterbo has been occupied; and the officers of the French army of occupation—amounting in its reduced state to 8,000 men, and susceptible of indefinite augmentation in a few hours—talk habitually, we are told, as if war were inevitable and imminent.

AFTER ALL.

BY WILLIAM WINTER.

The apples are ripe in the orchard,
The work of the reaper is done,
And the golden woodlands reddened
In the blood of the dying sun.

At the cottage door the grandsire
Sits pale in his easy chair,
While the gentle wind of twilight
Plays with his silver hair.

A woman is kneeling beside him,
A fair, young head is prest,
In the first wild passion of sorrow,
Against his aged breast.

And far from over the distance
The faltering echoes come
Of the flying blast of trumpet
And the rattling roll of drum.

And the grandsire speaks in a whisper,—
"The end no man can see;
But we give him to his country,
And we give our prayers to Thee."

The violets star the meadows,
The rose-buds fringe the door,
And over the grassy orchard
The pluk-white blossoms pour.

But the grandsire's chair is empty,
The cottage is dark and still;—
There's a nameless grave in the battle-field
And a new one under the hill.

And a pallid, tearless woman
By the cold hearth sits alone,
And the old clock in the corner
Ticks on with a steady drone.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SENTENCED.—A soldier of the 16th Regiment named Thomas Harwood, who shot a comrade named Sheehan, in December last has been tried by a general Court Martial, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

Sir Robert Napier, the commander of the expedition against Theodore, has been directed to report to the Horse Guards, sending duplicates to Sir William Mansfield. Four locomotives will shortly be at work in Abyssinia upon the railway formed in connection with the expeditionary force.

A summary of the killed and wounded by the Clerkenwell explosion is published in the report of the Relief Committee.—There were killed, 7; badly wounded, 41; in some cases maimed for life, 56, many of them heads of families, rendered houseless at midwinter; 600 families suffering in health, person, and property, from the violence of the shock. To relieve this great mass of poverty and sorrow, something like £7,000 has been subscribed by the public. The proportion of the female suffering is unusually large, and all of them were depending on their own exertions for their living. Four of these have lost eyes; others have been maimed or terribly shaken, and will never be again what they were. The revolting barbarity of the outrage is shown by the fact that not fewer than 26 cases were reported of injuries done to mothers and their infants.

IRISH CATTLE AND IRISHMEN.—The *Nation* is responsible for the following racy story.—One of the old Vinegar Hill breed of Hibernians in England, writing the other day respecting a scheme for sending bulls and Britons abroad for pastoral purposes, said to his correspondent on the other side of the globe—"Probably you could combine a (freight) tariff for bipeds

and quadrupeds that would tempt a large order, and make it a profitable transaction for all concerned, except the bovines, who need be no more consulted as to their disposal than if they were Irishmen; or, if they were to be consulted, it might be with the assurance that their intended conversion into rumpsteaks and sirloins is an honour for which they should endeavour to evince their gratitude by laying on fat for the butcher, in double quick time."

ENGLISH VOLUNTEER DISCIPLINE.—Fourteen officers of the 48th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers (the Havelock Company) commanded by Mr. George Cruikshank, have been cashiered. The circumstances which have led to this proceeding are stated to be these: For some time past there has been a large amount of dissatisfaction in all ranks of the 48th Middlesex. It was said that the commanding officer, from his great age, was incompetent for the duties of that position, and that in consequence the corps where ever it went, was the subject of ridicule. Deputations from the non-commissioned officers had waited upon him to ask him to resign, and he had promised to do so if they would bear with him for a while. Similar applications were also made by the commissioned officers, but equally without result. The two majors—Pillow and Saunders—then resigned, and fourteen out of the remaining nineteen officers forwarded to the Lord Lieutenant a memorial through the post, instead of through their commissioned officers, called attention to the case, and in the interests of the regiment asking for an investigation. The Lord Lieutenant forwarded this memorial to the War Office, whereupon an order was at once issued to cashier every one of the fourteen officers who had signed the document. On Saturday the Colonel Mr. G. Cruikshank, summoned an assembly of all the commissioned officers, in uniform, at the head quarters, Cook's court, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and then and there read the condemnation of the culprits. Captain Smith, although not one of the memorialists, at once gave notice of his resignation, and the corps is now left with but five officers, four of whom are stated to be mere boys. The officers complain bitterly that they should be dismissed without any inquiry.

Read-Admiral William Newton Fowell, whose death was announced lately, entered the navy March 26, 1819, and served as midshipman in the Lion schooner in action with pirates in the West Indies, and was mate of the Pickle at the capture of the Caloro slaver. He was promoted to lieutenant, August 12, 1834, and in that capacity served in North America and the West Indies, off Lisbon, and, on the Lakes of Canada; and, as lieutenant in command of the Experiment surveying vessel, was actively employed and wounded at Prescott on the St. Lawrence, in 1837, during the Canadian rebellion, and as a reward for his conduct was promoted to commander, July 4, 1839. He was senior officer of the Lako squadron from 1843 until paid off, July 21, 1848. He obtained post rank August 6, 1852, and became retired rear-admiral, September 1, 1867.

GENERAL WOLFE once appeared in the mess-room of some of his officers just in time to overhear a young subaltern remark that on a certain occasion he "had taken a bottle of wine with Wolfe." He instantly reprimanded the youngster by asking him somewhat sharply. "Do you not think that it would have been quite as becoming in you to have said 'General Wolfe, sir?'" "Not

at all, sir," was the quick-witted reply; "who ever heard of General Achilles, or of General Julius Caesar?" The general was pleased with the implied compliment in spite of himself, and the result was a hearty laugh all round, and a fresh invitation extended to the pert young officer to dine with the general on the day following.

NINETEEN FENIAN SYMPATHISERS
CASHERED FROM THE POPE'S
SERVICE.

The Roman correspondent of the *London Weekly Register*, a Roman Catholic organ, of January 4th, gives the following statement of the dismissal of Fenian sympathisers from the Pope's service:—

"I am sorry to have to close with what will pain every lover of the good cause. But truth had better be said at once, and what I have to chronicle will contain both a warning and advice. Corporal Shea conducted nineteen Irishmen yesterday to the station *en route* for the places they came from. Five of these were men who left Glasgow after and in no connection with Gordon's party, and made their way here without bringing any recommendation whatever, and their conduct since their arrival has not been such as to justify any supposal that they deserved any. Their misdemeanors culminated on the day of the review, when they instigated some of their brethren to join in a Fenian demonstration, which was to begin by attending a mass at some church in the Corso, got up by a Fenian resident, for the repose of the three men executed at Manchester, and to conclude by a display of ribbons and other proceedings to be gone through on the Piazza of St. Peter's during the distribution of military rewards. The colonel got to hear of it, and sent an order round that the Irishmen were to be compelled to keep the house all day. Mutiny and disaffection followed, but the Pope's government was firm. The civilian who attends a well known book shop on the Place of Spain was ordered to quit the city for promoting disaffection among the troops, and the chief grumblers availed themselves of the permission sent round by Dr. Charette, that those who wished to return home could sign their names and depart. They all belong to the party of sixty men who came from Scotland."

The *Nouvel Monde* publishes a letter, having no doubt a bearing on the same subject, dated from Rome, January 10:—

"Let volunteers be sent here for the Pontifical army. That is very well; but as to any special corps of Canadian Zouaves, let them remain in Canada, for they will not be received here, no matter what amount may be provided with them. His Lordship of Montreal knows why we have finished with the Irish Brigade. All who come must place themselves simply at the disposal of the administration. A Spanish legion, which was to cost the government nothing was offered; but it has been refused. All must be Pontifical Zouaves, and that alone."

ARTILLERY BALL.

This event, which has been the topic of conversation for the past week or two, came off on Thursday evening last, and was a most brilliant affair. The best ball, we believe ever got up in Collingwood. The attendance was large, and the variegated uniforms of the officers and men, and the handsome

dresses of the ladies, presented a beautiful contrast, and gave the ball-room a very gay appearance.—The Non-Commissioned Officers and men who gave the Ball must feel delighted, and justly so, at this their first attempt at catering to the precarious and changing public taste. A number of gentlemen and ladies were expected from Barrie, and Toronto, and in many instances had prepared themselves to be present, and would not come at the last moment, on account of the Railway authorities refusing to issue half fare tickets. The Ball-room was, however, well filled, and everything passed off in the most pleasing manner.

The rooms were most tastefully decorated with the arms and side arms of the Company, and the walls fastooned with flags, evergreens, and Red, White, and Blue merinos. At one end being a star of bayonets, with the Crown in the centre and a beaver on the top of the circle, on each side of the star being portraits of Her Majesty and Her late Consort.

Along the side of the wall on red ground was the motto, in evergreens, "Ever ready to defend our Queen and New Dominion." The whole having a very fine effect.

The supper was served up in Mr. Kyley's best style, and met with the approbation of every one partaking thereof.

Among those present we noticed, His Worship the Mayor and Miss Watson, Lt.-Col Stephenson and lady, Captain Gamon and lady, Captain Bligh and lady, Captain Wolfe, Captain J. Paterson, 10th Royals, Lieut. McMillan, 35th Battalion, &c.—*Colingwood Sentinel*.

MILITARY CONCERT AT CHATSWORTH.

On the evening of the 31st ult., a grand Military Concert was held in the Town Hall, Chatsworth. The weather in the evening was all that could be desired, notwithstanding the severity of the forepart of the day. The moon seemed to show her approval of the proceedings by promiscuously shedding her silvery light on the merry hearts and fair faces that were joyously wending their way towards the Concert room amid the jingling of horsebells, and creaking of sleighs while gliding over the frosty snow. Over two hundred were present, and tried to make themselves as comfortable as possible, but the seats rather than sustain such an enormous load of humanity, gave way, and many of those who depended upon them for support were precipitated—only on the floor. When these had regained their equilibrium, the Own Sound Brass Band favoured the audience with a polka, which was responded to by the usual signs of applause. Next came some excellent pieces by the Club, one of which, "Come where my love lies dreaming," seemed to tickle the under-eighteen female portion of the community to perfection. Mr. Henderson, who, though not gifted with a very strong voice, seems to be a man who thoroughly understands music. Recitations by Messrs. Creighton and Strang were well received. Mr. Whiteman sang "I am an Englishman," which was received with great applause. Several other pieces were sung, the band played the national Anthem, and all separated, got into their sleighs drove home, and were soon in the arms of Morpheus, dreaming of short wives and tall wives, of old Pompey breaking his skull on a hemlock knot, and above all thinking that a first class entertainment had been given under the auspices of the Chatsworth Volunteers.—*Own Sound Advertiser*.

HOW ELEPHANTS WERE SHIPPED TO ABYSSINIA.

PART of the outfit of the English expedition to Abyssinia was a herd of twenty elephants—unwieldy animals at best, but uncommonly troublesome as passengers on shipboard. A Bombay paper describes the shipment:

"The hoisting tackle required was of immense strength, and the hoist was formed in this way; The main yard was supported from the lower mast-head by stay-tackles; from the topmast-head there was a strengthening tackle, and from the lower mast-head to the yard there were preventers. From the foremast head there was a tackle for hauling the hoist forward. The elephants were brought from the place where they were picketed, one by one, and on reaching the *Compta's* side were fettered and placed in slings, consisting of the stoutest canvas, secured by thick lashings. The height to which the animals had to be hoisted before they were lowered away into the hold was some twenty or thirty feet, and a small regiment of kallas was employed in working the lifting tackle. The operation was really an extraordinary sight, well worth witnessing, and it was curious to observe the different moods in which the unwieldy beasts submitted to it. Some, when they found themselves suspended in mid-air, shed tears copiously, and were effected in a remarkable manner; others became vicious, and roared and plunged about most alarmingly.

"In the days of Queen Elizabeth some rather remarkable ideas were entertained in England as to the anatomy of elephants, and Shakespeare says: "The elephant hath joints, but none for courting; his legs are for necessity, not for flexure." Now nobody in these days, we suppose, holds such an opinion; but if he does, he would have had a convincing proof of his error had he witnessed the surprising agility of some of the elephants hoisted into the hold of the *Compta* for they bent their legs about, and pawed and kicked with tremendous violence, and one or two managed to throw their heads behind them so as to get a footing on the combing of the hatchway. Fortunately, no difficulty was experienced in dislodging their feet, and they were safely got down below. By about five o'clock p. m. nineteen had been embarked, but the twentieth one was so vicious and 'musty' that it was determined not to take him; for he would not submit to be slung, and he seemed very much inclined to do as he pleased. It was said that in an unamiable mood on Friday he killed one of his unfortunate attendants."

CANADIAN ITEMS.

A DESERTER GIVES HIMSELF UP.—A middle-aged man giving his name as William Walsh, who arrived in the city a few days ago from the regions of Uncle Sam, surrendered himself to the military authorities yesterday as a deserter from H. M. 45th Regiment of Foot, at present en route for Abyssinia.—Walsh states that about five years ago, he deserted from the regiment at Curragh Camp, previous to its proceeding to the East Indies. He then went to his home in Dublin, and managed for two years to elude the authorities. At the expiration of this time he was detected, arrested, and made to serve a year in prison. Last March he again deserted the depot, Chatham, and came to America. His appearance and dress would suggest that he had served in

the American army also, although he denied this. He appears exceedingly anxious to join the 29th Regiment quartered here, and after taking the necessary oath before the Police Magistrate, was sent before Lieutenant-Colonel Larrington.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

THE VOLUNTEER FIELD BATTERY assembled for their usual weekly drill at the Gun Shed last evening. The attendance, considering the stormy character of the night, was very fair. Quite a number of recruits have been lately added to the Battery, and have already attained a proficiency in their duties under the instructions of the second Lieut. (Mr. Daville) and Sergeant Major Brown, which does credit to the instructors and recruits for their intelligence and perseverance. The Battery is making very marked progress under Captain Smith, and we trust will continue to do so. If that officer's abilities are equal to his zeal, we shall have the pleasure of chronicling still further the progress and efficiency of the corps under his command.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

VICE REGAL BENEVOLENCE.—The Halifax Reporter says that a few days ago General Doyle, while riding through the streets of Halifax, came upon certain household effects that had been distrained for rent. On the owner's circumstances being explained to him, and being satisfied that the case was a deserving one, His Excellency turned to the bailiff, told him to stay proceedings, put back the things, and send to him in the morning and he would pay the bill for which the articles were being distrained and all the costs. He afterwards supplemented this kind act by sending a supply of provisions to the family. It is by such acts, says the Reporter, that General Doyle wins golden opinions from all classes.

INSPECTION AND SUPPER.—On Wednesday evening last, Brigade Major Patterson inspected the Volunteer Companies No. 1, Captain Graveley, and No. 2, Captain Elliott, at their respective armories in Victoria Hall. Major Patterson complimented Captain Elliott's company upon its efficiency, in drill and in numbers (it numbered 51 men), and made some very flattering and well deserved complimentary allusions to Captain Elliott himself. Capt. Graveley and his company were also complimented, although Captain Graveley has been at the head of his company but a short time. After the inspection, the officers of No. 2 company entertained the men to an excellent Oyster Supper in the Pauwel's House, to which they doubtless done ample justice; but as the press had no representative there, so far as we know, of course it cannot be expected that we could give particulars.—*Cobourg Sentinel*.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO GAZETTEER AND DIRECTORY FOR 1863.

JAMES SUTHERLAND, EDITOR AND COMPILER.
Hunter, Rose & Co., Printers and Publishers,
Ottawa.

THE above work is now in course of preparation, and will be issued early in the new year. The book will contain full and accurate information of all the cities, towns, villages, etc., in the Province of Ontario, together with an alphabetical list of the various trades and professions, prominent citizens, manufacturers, etc., in each locality.

Terms of advertising made known on application to agents. Subscription price of book five dollars.

HUNTER, ROSE & Co.,
Printers and Publishers.
Ottawa, Oct. 21, 1867. 43-1f



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,

Friday, 24th January, 1868.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

On the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Customs and under the authority given and conferred by the 123 clause of the Act 30 and 31 Viet. Cap. 6, intitled: "An Act respecting the Customs."

His Excellency in Council has been pleased to make and prescribe the following "Regulations" respecting the Warehousing and bonding of Wheat, Malze, or other grain that may be ground and packed in bond, that is to say:

1. That the Collector or other Officer of Customs at any Warehousing Port in the Dominion of Canada, may deliver without payment of duty, to the importer of any Malze or other grain from which flour or meal can be manufactured, on proper entry being made of the same, any quantity of such Malze or other grain for the purpose of drying, grinding and packing in such place and on such premises as shall be particularly described by such importer or owner.

2. That such buildings used for drying, grinding and packing of Malze or other grain and the premises thereto belonging, with the description to be given thereof as aforesaid, shall, for the purposes of drying, grinding and packing Malze and other grain under the above mentioned Act, be deemed and considered a Government Bonded Warehouse, and that none of the Malze or other grain so brought into the said drying, grinding and packing building or upon the said premises, shall be removed therefrom without a proper ex-warehouse entry and due payment of all duties on the same, if intended for home consumption within the said Dominion, or upon due entry thereof for removal or exportation under the usual bonds; nor shall any flour, meal or other products from the malze or other grain aforesaid, be removed from the said premises without due entry as aforesaid, either for consumption as aforesaid, for removal and exportation and payment of all Customs duties legally due on the flour, meal and other products into which the said malze and other grain shall have been manufactured as the case may be, allowance having first been made of five per cent. on the said flour or meal for shrinkage in those cases in which the corn or other grain has been kiln-dried before grinding.

3. That before the importer or owner of any malze and other grain aforesaid shall for the purpose of drying, grinding, and packing, be entitled to obtain the delivery thereof either ex-ship upon their importation into the said Dominion, to be carried immediately to the drying, grinding and packing buildings and premises aforesaid, or out of any Customs Warehouse, in which the same may be warehoused, he shall give bond with two sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Collector of Customs at the port where such Malze and other grain are imported or warehoused, in a penalty of double amount of duties payable on the same, with the conditions that the whole amount of the duties so payable upon the quantities of malze and other grain so delivered upon arrival or out of Warehouse as aforesaid, for the purpose of being dried, ground and packed in bond, shall within six months from the date of the bond to be so entered into, be well and truly paid to the Collector of Customs aforesaid for the use of Her Majesty, and the said importer or owner shall, before he can obtain the delivery aforesaid, further enter into and execute to the Collector for the use of Her Majesty as aforesaid, a general bond, the said importer or owner in the penal sum of one thousand five hundred dollars, and two approved sureties in the sum of three hundred and seventy-five dollars each, conditioned that at no period shall the quantity of malze

or other grain, or the product thereof in the said building or premises be less than the quantity on which the bond or bonds for duties herebefore mentioned, shall be outstanding and unpaid.

1. And for the purpose of further securing the due observance of the foregoing Regulations, the Collector of Customs, the Surveyor of Customs or warehouse-keeper or other approved officer of Customs, at the port where the malze and other grain shall be so bonded, or at the port nearest to the said drying or grinding and packing premises, shall at all times when such operations are being carried on therein have free access to and upon the said drying, grinding and packing buildings and premises for the purpose of verifying the quantity of malze of other grain and their products therein, and any reasonable expenses attending such inspection shall be borne and defrayed by the importer or owner of the malze and other grain so undergoing drying, grinding and packing in bond.

The order of His Excellency in Council of the 1st August, 1867 prescribing Regulations on the above subject, but restricted to the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, is hereby revoked.

WM. H. LEE,

Clerk Privy Council.

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April 13th, 1867

—191—

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ENGLISH:

London Journal, Family Herald, Bow Bells, new, Englishwoman's Magazine, London Illustrated News, and other Periodicals, London Punch, and other Comical Papers.

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NOTICE.

ON and after the FIRST day of JANUARY, 1868, all requisitions for Law and Registration Stamps, to be used in the Province of Quebec, and all Returns of Stamps cancelled by the various Officers entrusted with that duty, will have to be addressed to the Treasurer of the Province of Quebec, Quebec, and not as heretofore to Ottawa.

R. S. M. BOUCHETTE, Chairman, Board of Customs, Excise and Stamps.

JOHN LANGTON, Auditor.

Ottawa, 23rd December, 1867.

1-3in.

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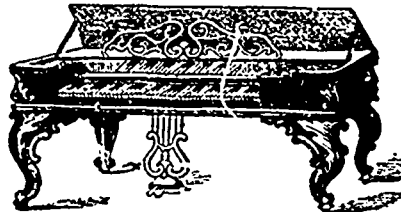
It is directed by the Hon. The Finance Minister, that hereafter Weekly Notices be published and furnished to Collectors of Customs, as to the rate of discount to be allowed on American Invoices, which is to be in accordance with the price of gold as represented by Exchange, at a rate equal thereto.—Such Notices to appear every Saturday in the "Canada Gazette."

R. S. M. BOUCHETTE.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT, Customs, Ottawa, Feb. 11, 1868.

In accordance with the above Order, Notice is hereby given that the authorized discount is declared to be this day 23 per cent, which percentage of deduction is to be continued until next Weekly Notice, and to apply to purchases made in the United States during that week.

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