



THE MILITARY BUILDINGS ON ST. HELEN'S ISLAND.

Comparatively few of the many thousands of visitors who each season visit the beautiful Island of St. Helen, opposite Montreal, are aware of its interesting military history, and of the existence at its easterly end of several large and formerly massive buildings, used in days gone by in connection with the garrison of Imperial troops which was always maintained there. Its name, "St. Helen," is now over two centuries old, having been given it by Canada's great explorer, Champlain, in honour of his wife, Helene Boule. The island was afterwards formally granted to Charles Le Moyne, father of the first Baron de Longueuil (under date 30th May, 1664), in whose family it remained until about 1815, when the King obtained it for military purposes, giving its owners in exchange a valuable block of land in the city of Montreal, being the square bounded by Notre Dame, St. Helen, Recollet and St. Peter streets. The buildings on the island, which are shown in our engravings, were erected at this time by the Royal Engineers, and on the removal of Citadel Hill—which had up to this time been the depot for all military stores in use by the garrison—everything of the sort was removed to the island, which thereafter became the district headquarters for munitions of war; a strong garrison was established there and was maintained until the withdrawal of all Her Majesty's troops from Canada in 1870. For a number of years after the latter date a detachment of Canadian regulars from Quebec was stationed there as a guard on the large quantity of military supplies stored in the warehouses; but about ten years ago this body was withdrawn, since which time the buildings have been in the sole custody of a caretaker and his family.

QUEENSTON HEIGHTS.

The 13th of October is one of Canada's greatest anniversaries; and its annual observance all through Ontario is a credit to that province. In one sense, and a very material one, it ranked next to the capture of Detroit as the most substantial victory of the war, inflicting a loss on the American invaders of some 1500 men, of whom 1100 were made prisoners-of-war. The story of the fight has been often told, and it is unnecessary to repeat it here, although it is one that should be familiar to every Canadian, old and young. It is a thing of which to be proud, that by the determination and patriotic energy of a few men, this and other red-letter days which commemorate British-Canadian valour against our old enemy, are deeply impressed on the attention of our boys and girls—those to whom Canada must, in future years, look for the development of her national life. It is worthy of note that the regular troops—detachments of H. M. 41st and 49th foot—formed less than one-half of the total British force engaged. Various companies of the York and Lincoln militia, and about 50 Mohawk Indians, fought side by side with the King's troops, and showed their Loyalist breeding by a steady and unflinching valour. But the death of Sir Isaac Brock neutralized many of the advantages which resulted from the victory. The loss to Canada and the British cause of this truly magnificent leader was irreparable, and no one can follow out the subsequent campaigns without feeling his sense of the loss our army sustained grow more poignant as errors and omissions increase in number. Had Brock lived to direct the well-meaning but incapable Prevost, we would in all probability be spared the existence in our annals of such dark and melancholy episodes as Sackett's Harbour, Moravian Town, and Plattsburg. Our engravings in this connection are one of Brock's monument, one of the base and inscription of same, and an old view of Queenston Heights, taken about 1830. In our issue of 8th November, 1890, will be found full particulars of the erection and subsequent history of this monument, as well as some additional illustrations of its surroundings.

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, HAMILTON.

An engraving of this edifice may be of interest at the present. It was the second Episcopal church built in Hamilton, its history dating back to the year 1849, on Ascension Day of which year the corner-stone was laid. It stands on a piece of land which was in 1835 offered by the late Mr. George Hamilton as the site for the first parish church in the city of Hamilton—known as Christ Church—but which was then rejected as not being sufficiently central. The new

church was opened in June, 1851. The first appointment was left in the hands of the Rector of Christ Church, who nominated the Rev. Mr. Ede; but that gentleman was in poor health and could not undertake the duties. The Rev. John Hebden was then appointed incumbent, and for twenty-seven years he faithfully performed the duties of his sacred office. In 1878 he was succeeded by the Rev. James Carmichael, the present Dean of Montreal, one of the most able, eloquent and popular clergymen in Canada. Mr. Carmichael remained until 1882, when he resigned to return to St. George's, Montreal, and was succeeded by the Rev. Hartley Carmichael, M.A. This talented divine officiated until a year or two ago when he resigned, and was succeeded by the Rev. E. P. Crawford, M.A., the present incumbent. From the beginning the church steadily prospered. A handsome rectory was built in 1861, principally by the exertions of the ladies of the congregation, and a few years later a commodious school house was erected on the ground adjoining the church. As the congregation increased, new galleries were put in, until every inch of space was utilized. But the question of enlargement was abruptly settled by a fire which took place in January, 1887, and which burnt the church to the ground. Steps were promptly taken to erect a new and larger edifice, with such success than on the first of March, 1888, the building, of which we give an illustration on page 380, was consecrated by the Bishop of Niagara; it is a large

and handsome structure and of special prominence in the diocese.

THE DARDANELLES.

The recent "Dardanelles Incident" and the always problematical condition of affairs in that region, owing to the attitude of Russia and the uncertainty of dependence in the Porte, render of interest the re-production of a map showing the Dardanelles, the Island of Mitylene and the adjacent territories. The persistent efforts of Russia to gain an undisputed outlet from the Black Sea, and the possibilities for Europe should such be acquired, have been the theme of endless discussion and controversy, and the subject is ever and anon endowed with a fresh interest by the occurrence of some incident such as that which recently ruffled the surface of English and Russian diplomacy. Russian aggression and Turkish weakness and vacillation, which also involve the interests of the various states of the Balkan peninsula, are a constant menace to the peace of the Continent, and threaten still as they have threatened in the past to precipitate sooner or later a stupendous conflict.

MONTREAL RIFLE RANGERS.

In our issue of 27th September, appeared a group portrait of members of this corps and an account of the organization, to which our readers are referred in connection with the two engravings which appear this week.



THE DARDANELLES AND ADJACENT LANDS AND WATERS.