

decorated with flags and arms, and a large picture of Her Majesty occupied the place of honour. The band of the Fusiliers was stationed near the dais, and discoursed excellent music.

The Sixth paraded in their armoury, and marched out into the Drill Hall to the regimental marching tune "The British Grenadiers." The companies averaged about ten files each, the smallness of the muster being, no doubt, due to the annual May-day epidemic of domestic moving. A good many recruits were in the ranks, but the few battalion movements which were done prior to the presentation were fairly well performed. Lieut.-Col. Houghton briefly introduced Sir Donald, and Lieut.-Cols. Burland, and Sheppard, the commanding officers of the 6th and 83rd, ascended the platform and were duly presented with the cups. In making the presentation, Sir Donald expressed his pleasure at the opportunity thus afforded him of assisting the corps of this district in the hard and self-denying work they annually performed. He mentioned the wish strongly expressed a year ago by Major-General Herbert that some such reward be offered to the Montreal battalions for their labours, and as an incentive to the attainment of the highest degree of efficiency. He regretted the absence of that officer on duty in England, and spoke in the strongest terms of his zeal for the service. He heartily congratulated the winners, but reminded them that they must look to their laurels, as he knew that the other city corps would give the present holders a hard fight for the trophy during the season now beginning. He closed his remarks by saying: "Without derogation from the merits of Col. Burland, it is only right to say that while he commands this very fine regiment at the present time, the cup was won when it was under the command of Col. Massey, and it gives me very great pleasure to hand it over to Col. Burland, with the confidence that he and his battalion will keep it as long as possible, and in the same way it gives me very great pleasure in handing the other cup to Col. Sheppard for the 83rd. When another competition comes around may they have it if they are the best in the field. I congratulate you, Col. Burland and Col. Sheppard, and you, Col. Massey, that your battalions have obtained these presents."

Lieut.-Col. Burland expressed the pleasure it gave him to accept the cup from Sir Donald's hands. The force needed some encouragement and it was such acts as Sir Donald's that would cement the force and build up an army to defend Canada.

Lieut.-Col. Sheppard briefly acknowledged receipt of his cup.

Col. Powell, A.G., referred in flattering terms to the handsome prizes, and Montreal and the Sixth ought to be proud in winning Sir Donald's gift. He was pleased to hear that the force had so willing and generous a friend.

Mayor Desjardins also spoke in complimentary terms of the good done by Sir Donald who gave largely and freely to McGill, the Royal Victoria Hospital, and the deserving institutions. Again, Sir Donald in his good acts knew no race or creed as he had given to the St. Jean Baptiste monument and to all that was good. The city should be proud of its generous donors. If our people are becoming self-reliant and confident it will be due to such men as Sir Donald, who has helped to strengthen and encourage our volunteers. He thanked Sir Donald, and also the Hon. Mrs. Herbert, as well as her distinguished husband, who was doing so much to further the work he has in hand.

Lieut.-Col. Massey likewise thanked Sir Donald for the active interest he took in the corps in giving the cups, which went so far to promote the efficiency of the battalion. They owed Sir Donald a debt of gratitude and he would not have to regret giving them to the corps to work for. He expressed the pleasure it gave him to be in command of the Sixth when they won the cup and he was equally sure they would, by constant application, try and retain it.

Lieut.-Col. Houghton in the name of the Fifth District thanked the donor for his gifts.

Mr. Solicitor-General J. J. Curran remarked that the gifts were echoed throughout the country. He did not like to speak of Sir Donald's generosity in his presence, but he spoke of the many and continued sacrifices of time and money made by the officers and men of the force, especially in Montreal. He felt satisfied that Sir Donald's influence was such that the great boon of having the military school removed to Montreal might possibly be secured. (Prolonged applause.) It was too bad if anything should prevent so



THE SIR DONALD A. SMITH CHALLENGE CUP
WON BY THE SIXTH FUSILIERS.

(Cut kindly loaned by Herald Printing Coy.)

desirable a consummation. The Mayor, aldermen and citizens of Montreal were only anxious to give suitable grounds for such a school and relieve the young men who desired military instruction from having to leave their business and go a distance of thirty miles to secure it. If Sir Donald Smith could induce the Minister of Militia, whose anxiety to improve the opportunities of the force was now so well known and so highly appreciated, to adopt the idea of bringing the school to Montreal, he would have conferred a lasting and substantial benefit on the force.

Sir Donald Smith assured the commanding officer and men that he would only be too happy to lend all his influence to secure the school for Montreal. He felt, however, that the Solicitor-General was minimizing his own influence. The latter had far more power than he was willing to acknowledge, and all he would say was that he was willing to co-operate with Mr. Curran and secure that great advantage to the volunteer corps of Montreal if it were possible.

Col. Burland then doffed his busby and called upon the Sixth to give three cheers for Sir Donald which was done lustily.

Sir Donald returned his thanks, and spoke of their work, adding that Montreal should be proud of them. He promised to do his best in the House of Commons for them. This was just the beginning of a movement to make Montreal the military centre, and the present Minister of Militia was favorable to it. This ended the interesting ceremony.

Lieut.-Col. Burland held a reception afterwards in the armouries of the Sixth and Garrison Artillery. Among those present were Lieut.-Cols. Starke, Henshaw, Massey, Bond, Cole, Butler, Gardner, Dugas, Prevost, Stevenson, Strathy and Isaacson; Majors Seath, Ibbotson, Busteed and McArthur; Captains Ibbotson, Hamilton, Bond, Cantlie, Rodden and Cameron; Lieuts. Costigan, Stewart, Wilson and a large number of ladies.