



While we are always glad to receive communications from all parts of Canada, we cannot hold ourselves in any way responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents. It is absolutely necessary that the name and address of the writer should accompany each communication, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

OUR MONTREAL LETTER.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

In spite of all the pessimists in the world, mankind was never more ready to appreciate great deeds than it is to-day. The British Empire has afforded many striking instances of this during the past stirring months, with their repulses and victories and deeds of heroism and splendid valor. But apart from the deeds in the field, the deed that has aroused the sentiment of the empire in general more than any other single thing, is the equipment and maintenance in the field of about six hundred mounted men by Lord Strathcona. To equip and maintain and send seven thousand miles over the seas such a body of men and for such a purpose is unprecedented in the history of the world, and it is no wonder that it has aroused enthusiastic admiration. In Montreal especially, where we know Lord Strathcona so well, and have so many reasons to admire his princely philanthropy, his present patriotic munificence has warmed the hearts of everybody, and when it was announced that his force would stop over here and parade our streets, we all prepared to give it a royal greeting. A public holiday was declared, there were as many flags and flowers as on Jubilee Day, and the streets for miles were lined with crowds of cheering citizens. Old and young, rich and poor, of both sexes joined in the celebration, and it was certainly a sight that those who saw it will never forget. As a contemporary says: "His Lordship is a Montreal citizen; he is President of the Bank of Montreal; he is Chancellor of the chief university of Montreal; he gave a princely sum towards the erection of this city's noblest hospital; he has given munificent donations to all our leading institutions of benevolence; he erected, at his own cost, one of the handsomest and best equipped ladies' colleges in the world; his capital fructifies a number of mercantile enterprises, and largely to him is due the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Not content with such services he, for years, has devoted his energies, his wealth, his talents, to the duties of the official representative of Canada at the Metropolis of the Empire, which he has done so much to consolidate, to strengthen, to honor, by a noble career." The sturdy troopers we welcomed were drawn from all parts of an area larger than any European country. Some of them had traversed hundreds of miles on foot over ice and

snow of a region fringing the arctic circle. Others were drafted on the prairies, or in the mining districts of the North-West and British Columbia. From farms and offices and colleges others were recruited, all of them the cream of Canada's manhood, and all inspired with devotion to the British Crown, as "Soldiers of the Queen." The spectators cannot have been fewer than 150,000, as for four miles the sidewalks were packed three to four and five and six deep, and every window and coign of vantage were bright with the smiling faces of innumerable women. As for flags, one store alone sold over five thousand Union Jacks, and among the most richly decorated stores were those of the jewelers, many of whom closed up for the afternoon. Truly Monday, March 12, will be a day long remembered in Montreal.

Messrs. Poulin & Co., jewelers, Quebec, whose recent business troubles we noted, have dissolved, and the business in future will be continued by Frederick B. Poulin, under the style of P. E. Poulin & Son.

One of the notable local events of recent date has been the burning down of the Theatre Francais and some adjacent properties on St. Catherine Street East. Among the sufferers were Mr. Jean M. Grothe, jeweler, whose loss was \$7,000, insured, and Rosenthal & Co., jewelers, whose loss was \$5,000, insured. Fortunately the theatre was empty at the time and no lives were lost.

The many friends of Mr. Alfred Eaves will regret to learn that he has been confined to his apartments at the Windsor Hotel with an attack of bronchitis for about a fortnight, but, happily, he is now convalescent.

Trooper Andrew James Halcro, C. Squadron, Strathcona's Horse, is oldest son of Capt. W. Frank Halcro, Hudson, Que., and is twenty-three years of age. Six years ago he was employed by the Montreal Watch Case Co., and for some time after was a member of the Duke of York's Hussars, Montreal. He left two years ago for Rossland and Nelson as assayer in the mines, and there experienced what roughing it means. Thence he joined his present troop. He was given a great send off by his old friends.

Mr. Richardson, jeweler, Granby, Que., has had his stock damaged by fire. Fortunately it was insured.

Messrs P. F. Bowen & Co., are also recent sufferers by fire, having had their stock burnt out. Fortunately, in this case, too, the insurance had been attended to.

Messrs. Barre Bros. & Co., Ltd., have now definitely decided to remove to Montreal. Judging from their past career they may be expected to make things "hum."

Vezina Victor has registered as proprietress of the firm of Adj. Vaillancourt & Cie, jewelers, Montreal.

Mr. Jacob Levy, representing Levy Bros. & Co., Hamilton, was in Montreal during March.

The many friends of Mr. Jas. A. Pitts, jobber, Temple Building, Montreal, will regret to learn of the continued illness of Mrs. Pitts in New York.

The familiar face of Mr. Walter Barr was seen being carried around the streets of our city last month on the same sturdy old pair of stilts.