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The Relief of Ladysmith

“O, rejoice beyond a common joy.”

SHAKSPEARE

THE pleasurable sensations of joy, of gladness in a high degree, swept over the country, on receipt of the long-looked for tidings of the relief of beleaguered Ladysmith. The faces of the loyal citizens of Montreal fairly beamed with happiness, as they read the welcome announcement that the vanguard of general Buller's army had entered Ladysmith. The tale of slaughter in accomplishing this gallant feat of arms has yet to be told. For the moment these unavoidable horrors are hidden, and an intense and soul-stirring delight animates every loyal heart beating under the victorious flag of Britain. Of course, some citizens were slow to accept the news. Perhaps the frequent attempts made by an impatient and somewhat sensational daily press to relieve the besieged city had made them sceptical. However, lest these unbelievers might be too tardy in their manifestations of pleasure and loyalty, the students of dear old McGill University, with whom nothing is ever the matter, who are proverbially “all right,” marched through the city informing dilatory and absent-minded citizens that a display of bunting was requisite, necessary, and appropriate. In the case of subjects of the Queen who were too busy to heed the request of the students, or lacked a flag, it and the labour to hoist same was cheerfully if somewhat boisterously supplied.

It was a truly inspiring sight to see this laughing, happy, loyal band of boys, representatives of the youth of a great nation, giving expression to a rejoicing beyond any common joy, and singing with, all the vigor of early manhood,

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.