

Being received from the Committee of Elizabethtown, Mr. Morris Franklin, President of the Board of Aldermen of New York city, welcomed the old soldier in terms of congratulation at his safe return. He added :

"In contemplating upon the thrilling events which have characterized your history, we find so much to excite our admiration, and to call into action the patriotic emotions of the heart, that we feel proud, as American citizens, that among the many illustrious names which now are, or may hereafter be emblazoned upon the escutcheons of our country, yours will appear in bold relief, as among her noblest and most honored sons; for whether upon the plains of Chippewa, or Lundy's Lane—whether at the sortie of Fort Erie, or on the heights of Queenstown—whether landing on the shores of Vera Cruz, or bravely contending at the pass of Cerro Gordo—whether entering in triumph the capital of Mexico, and there planting the American standard upon its battlements—whether in the warrior's tent, at the solemn hour of midnight, arranging the operations of the coming day, while your faithful soldiers were slumbering around you, dreaming of their friends and their homes—or whether attending upon the wounded, the dying, and the dead, regardless of yourself in your anxiety for others—we find all those characteristics which mark the true dignity of man, and bespeak the accomplished and victorious chieftain.

"Under circumstances such as these, and fresh from the well-fought battle-fields of our country, we now welcome you within our midst, as one worthy to receive and forever wear that victorious wreath which the American people have entwined to decorate and adorn your brow; and we can not omit, upon this occasion, to bear our testimony to the valor, bravery, and skill displayed by that noble band of our adopted fellow-citizens, who, side by side with the natives of our soil, stood bravely by the common standard of our country, or fell nobly struggling in its defense. Peace be to the ashes of those who thus sacrificed their lives, for they died as brave men love to die—fighting the battles of their country, and expiring in the very arms of victory."

Scott's reply was felicitous and full of feeling. He said, among other things :

"If I had looked to considerations merely personal, I should have declined the high distinction tendered me; but I knew I was to be received by you as the representative of that victorious army it was so lately my good fortune to command—an army that has carried the glory of American arms to a height that has won universal admiration, and the gratitude of all hearts at home.