

were to voyage in her, at the same time joining in the kind wishes of the Minister. The addresses were replied to by myself on behalf of the officers and crew, and the opportunity taken to express our thanks to the gentlemen who addressed us, for their extremely kind wishes, at the same time, feeling sensible of our duty to our country. Advantage was taken of the opportunity to acknowledge the pains taken to equip the vessel for the trying voyage, and the study of our comfort when in Arctic waters, and to express the relief afforded by the assurance that allowances would be made our wives and families from our pay in our absence.

An interesting incident in connection with our departure from Quebec, was the presence of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who, at the time, was attending the Tercentenary Celebration of the founding of Quebec. At 1.30 p.m. of the 28th of July, we steamed between the vessels of the British fleet and several French and American naval vessels, at anchor. The harbour was at the same time filled with vessels of all nationalities. We passed by the naval vessels, saluting them, and were greatly honoured by the cordial manner in which the salute was returned by all vessels within sight, as our little vessel passed down abreast of the harbour.

The most stirring circumstance to us personally, was the display of comradeship shown by the officers and crew of the British fleet. Strains of the music, from the magnificent band of H.M.S. *Indomitable* playing 'Auld Lang Syne,' reached our ears. We were thrilled by the kindly spirit suggested in the selection of the music by the men who were serving under the same flag which our little ship was starting out to again plant upon the heights of the far northern lands, and we spontaneously broke out into cheers, as the best expression of our feelings, at the time, towards those who kindly wished us bon voyage.

We had fine weather down the St. Lawrence, and everything went well. At 2.15 on July 30 we landed our mail and pilot at Father Point, and took on board mail and parcels for the officers and crew sent by friends. With fair wind and hazy weather, we continued our voyage under full sail and steam,