

the Colors," the band played a slow march down and then a quick march up the front of the line. Number one or the Grenadier Company under Captain Charlton formed the escort, and preceded by the band playing the "British Grenadiers" marched to the left of the line where the old colors had been posted, and where they were given by the sergeant-major to ensigns Gzouski and Butler, Lieut. Hewles commanding the color party. The line presented arms, and this guard of honor marched in slow time between the opened ranks from left to right, the band playing the "Grenadiers March." On the company reaching the original position, it again marched in line in front of the regiment now bearing the esteemed old colors before it for the last time, the band slowly playing "Auld Lang Syne." The old colors having been placed at the left of the line, the ceremony of the consecration of the new colors was proceeded with. For this purpose the regiment formed three sides of the square, by wheeling up two companies on each flank. The new colors were carried to the front by the two senior color sergeants, and having been unfurled by Majors Smyth and Turner and the senior Ensigns Holmes and MacLean, were laid upon an altar of drums. The Lord Bishop of Quebec, assisted by the Rector and attended by fifteen clergy then came to the centre of the square. The regiment having been called to attention ment having been called to attention, the usual services was commenced by the Revd. Mr. Sulloch, chaplain of the forces at Halifax, offering up appropriate prayers; part of the 44th and 46th psalms were intoned by the Revd. C. Wetherick, chaplain of the forces in Quebec. The regiment then shouldered arms and the consecration prayer was offered up by the Lord Bishop, the Revd. C. Wetherick, then followed in prayer for Her Majesty and his Lordship pronounced the benediction.

The two majors then advanced with the two unfurled colors and saluting His Royal Highness gave them into his hands, who on presenting them to the two kneeling ensigns, delivered a stirring address to Col. Pagot and the Sixty Ninth. The Colonel returned thanks and called on the regiment for three cheers and one more for Prince Arthur, which was lustily taken up by the immense crowd lining the ramparts. The new colors were then marched to the line and received with a salute, after which the regiment marched past the Prince in slow and quick time, advanced in review order and marched back to barracks.

The next morning at 11.30 the escort with the old colors, under command of Capt. F. H. Charlton took up a position at the main door of the cathedral. The Rector, Revd. G. Housman, and eleven clergy of the diocese had taken their places within the altar rails, when the captain commanding the escort knocked at the main door.

The rector then requested the church wardens R. H. Wurtele and George Hall, Esquires, to ascertain who knocked, and on being informed that Captain Charlton craved speech with the authorities of the cathedral, he desired him to be admitted, and on his reaching the chancel thus addressed the rector—"I have been commanded by Lt. Col. George Bagot, to repair with the old colors of the 69th regiment, under a sufficient escort to this cathedral, in the hope that its authorities will permit these venerable emblems of Loyalty, Christianity and Civilization to find a fitting resting place within the walls of this sacred building. In the

midst of a loyal and God-fearing population."

To which the rector replied,—Inform Lt. Col. Bagot, that we receive these colors as a sacred trust, not only as emblems of Loyalty, Christianity, and Civilization, but in remembrance of a regiment which has been conspicuous in repelling a recent invading of this province, whose conduct has been characterized by a singular regard of order and regularity, and which by its general bravery, has deservedly won the highest esteem of every member of this community."

The clergy then in procession advanced to the main door of the cathedral and returned followed by the escort and colors, the familiar strain of "Home Sweet Home" pealing from the organ. When the clergy had resumed their places within the railing, the colors were handed to the rector, the escort presented arms and the National Anthem was played on the organ.

The service then opened with the hymn—"Lord of a power and Might." The Revd. Mr. Forleigh then read the collect "Prevent us O Lord"—also prayers for Her Majesty, and appropriate to the occasion, after which an eloquent address by the rector concluded the service.

The last depositing of regimental colors in a church in this Dominion, occurred at St. John, N.B., on the 15th August, 1890, when the old colors of the 2nd Battalion of St. John County Militia were placed by the 62nd St. John Fusiliers in Trinity Church.

FRED. C. WURTELE.

Captain R.L.

The British Flag,

From the French of Louis Frechette, the Canadian Laureate of the French Academy.

Mr. Gustavus W. Wicksteed, of Ottawa, has made an excellent translation of this piece in unrhymed verse, from which this version, in a different measure, is derived. His is notable for fidelity of phrasing the original; I have taken some liberties, and with greater freedom of expression aim to give the sense of the author. The poem is an undoubted epitome of the race feeling prevalent in French Canada.

"Behold, my son! Admire"—

So spake to me my sire—

"Yon banner, bravely borne,—

Yon meteor of the morn!

This land," my father said,

"Hath prospered where it lead;

That banner of the free

Respecteth liberty.

"That banner, son of mine,

Is Britain's own ensign,

That ever waves on high

In unstained majesty;

It gladdens all the air,

Unfolding everywhere,

And over land and sea

Floateth triumphantly.

"An eighth part of the globe

Its beauty doth enrobe;

The ensign of command.

It waves o'er many a land,—

Hiding, with color new,

Some patch of heaven's blue,

Nor e'er obscures a ray

From the serene of day.

"O'er many a land and sea

It waves exultantly,

And follow, where it flies,

Progress and enterprise;

See its red glow emerge

O'er ocean's farthest verge,

While forest lands remote

Behold it proudly float!

"It waves o'er great and small,
Its impress is on all;
To far-off wild and den,
To tribes of savage men,
It dawns upon the sight,
The harbinger of light,
And for the world supplies
Each art to civilize.

"And in the march, direct,
Of conquering intellect,
Through mists of twilight gray
Behold it show the way;
Like dove from ark released
The old world has ceased,
Of guiding column high
Upreared o'er Sinai.

"In days when men were bold,
That glorious flag of old
'Gainst ours was lifted high
In jealous rivalry,—
Deeming itself the peer
Of ours, and destined here
To put our own to shame
In the great race for fame.

"Ah, then it proved its might
In many a famous fight!
O'er many a sea, unfurled,
And country of the world,
Through years, with ours, at length
It measured strength with strength;
Thine—ours—alternately,
Defeat and victory.

"God's will alone may be,—
He doomed the Flurs-de-lis
Before that flag to bow,—
Secure and sovereign, now.
If borne o'er hill and glen,
It wrought us sorrow, then,
It since of old distress
Hath taught us forgetfulness,

"And if, with legal sway,
That banner floats to-day,
The rocky ramparts o'er
Sacred to France of yore,
It waves benightedly
Above a people free;—
No faith doth it betray,
It takes no right away.

"Vanish each gloomy form
Of battle and of storm;
Forget them, best we may,
In brightness of to-day;
And since, my son, we have
O'er us that banner brave,
Our freedom and our faith
To cover from all scath,
We must, where'er we see,
Salute it reverently."

"—But, father,—if I dare
Pardon me, and forbear,—
Say, is there not one, yet—
Our own—can we forget?
"Ah, that!" exclaimed my sire,
His eyes instinct with fire,—
"That standard of our King
Is quite another thing!
And he must bow who sees
And kiss it on his knees!"

—Arthur John Lockhart, in Halifax Critic.

CORRESPONDENCES.

To the Editor Canadian Military Gazette.

Dear Sir,—In the last September number of the Gazette I have been reading over a communication from "Oxford," headed "Troubles of Country Corps." As an old Imperial officer and for many years holding a commission in the active militia of Canada, I may be permitted to make a few remarks on "Oxford's" correspondence, even at the risk of differing from him. He starts out with the statement, "it would certainly improve the battalion now designated as rural, to have four out of five years' drill at company and battalion headquarters. As far as assembling the men every year I must agree