

DEPOSITING THE OLD COLOURS OF THE 69TH REGIMENT IN THE ENGLISH CATHEDRAL.

Another rare and highly interesting ceremony—probably the first of the kind in America—was witnessed, when the old colours of the gallant 69th Regiment, by permission of the Rector and Church Wardens, were placed in the English Cathedral of Quebec.

Prince Arthur was present with the Lieutenant-Governor; and in the very large congregation assembled, which filled the vast edifice in every part, besides Hon. Mr. Dunkin and other members of the Privy Council, Hon. Mr. Cauchon, Speaker, and other members of the Senate, we noticed Chief Justice and Madame Duval, Chief Justice Meredith, Judge Taschereau, Hon. Solicitor General Irvine, His Worship the Mayor and Madame Garnau, Consul General and Madame Gautier, Mr. Robinson, United States Consul, the Aldermen and City Councillors and City Clerk, the President of the Board of Trade, representatives of other public bodies.

The galleries were reserved for the ladies, with the exception of the Governor's pew, in which the Prince and Sir N. F. Belleau and their suites sat.

At eleven o'clock the old colours were brought from the Citadel.

The main door of the Cathedral was closed, the Rector and his Clergy being assembled at the Communion Table—Rev. Mr. Housman, and the Revd. Messrs. Hamilton, Fothergill, Ploes, King, Woolryche, Sykes, Balfour, Mathers, Plenderleath and Mitchell.

The following gentlemen of the Select Vestry were in attendance:—Capt. Ashe, R. N. W. G. Wurtele, R. H. Smith, W. White, C. P. Champion, T. H. Dunn, P. A. Shaw, H. S. Scott, T. Beckett, W. C. Scott, Dr. Sewell, and M. G. Mountain, Esquires.

The captain of the military escort of the Colours, on arriving at the west door knocked three times.

The Rector desired the Church Wardens to enquire who knocked.

The Church-Wardens having enquired, returned and informed the Rector that it was Captain Thomas Henry Charleton, of the 69th Regiment, who craved speech of the authorities of the Cathedral.

The Rector then desired Capt. Charleton to be admitted.

Captain Charleton, on reaching the Communion rails, addressed the Rector as follows:—

"I have been commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel George Bagot to repair with the old Colours of the 69th Regiment, under a sufficient escort, to this Cathedral, in the hope that its authorities will permit these venerated 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."

The Rector replied as follows:

"Inform Lieutenant-Colonel Bagot that we receive these Colours 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 invasion of this Province, whose conduct has been characterized by a singular regard to order and regularity, and

which, by its general bearing, has deservedly won the highest esteem of every member of the community."

The Clergy in procession, thereupon advanced to the west door, and returned followed by the Escort and Colours, the organ playing a slow march.

When the Clergy had assumed their places within the Communion rails, the Colours were given to the Rector and the Reverend Mr. Hamilton, the Escort presenting arms, the organist, Mr. Mills, playing the National Anthem.

The following hymn was then sung by the Choir:

Lord of all power and might,
God of the quick and dead,
Who through the tumult of the fight,
Coverest the Soldier's head.

Back from the ranks of war,
Where death and carnage reigned,
Grateful, we bring from lands afar,
Torn, shattered, but unstained.

Banners Thy servant blessed,
Ere the storm of contest came;
Lord, let their fragments ever rest,
Where dwells Thy holy name.

With them we bring to Thee,
All that our hearts can give,
Praise, honor, for the victory,
Praise, honor, that we live.

If, when the tempest roared,
A ready help was nigh,
If near us the devouring sword,
Flashed, and passed harmless by:

These were Thy Works on King,
Thine, thine, the glory be,
Hear while Thy ransomed people sing,
Eternal praise to Thee.

Lord, as on that dark day,
Be with thy servants still—
Hear when they lift their voice to pray—
Hear, and defend from ill.

Oh in the trying hour,
When the guilty pleasure smiles,
Rise Thou, and break the tempter's power,
Rise and disperse his wiles.

So when life's march is o'er,
From sin and danger free,
Our souls may dwell for evermore,
Saviour and God with thee.

The Rev. Mr. Fothergill then read prayers—including the following:—

Most Gracious God, who has set thy servant Victoria our Queen, upon the throne of her Ancestors, we most humbly beseech thee to protect her on the same from all the dangers to which she may be exposed. Hide her from the gathering together of the forward, and from the insurrection of wicked doers: Do thou weaken the hands, blast the designs and defeat the enterprises of all her enemies, that no secret conspiracies, nor open violences, may disquiet her Reign, but that, being safely kept under the shadow of thy wing, and supported by thy power, she may triumph over all opposition; that so the world may acknowledge thee to be her defender and almighty deliverer in all difficulties and adversities, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

O Almighty God, who art a strong tower of defence unto thy servants against the face of their enemies, we yield the most humble and hearty thanks, for that it hath pleased thee to go forth with our armies; and here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, these colours, consecrated in thy name, and carried as the tokens of thy presence, to be laid up in thy House, for a memorial of thy mercies for ever. And humbly we beseech thee, who art the only giver of all victory, to defend evermore, with the power of thy presence, all, of all orders, rank, and degree, in the 69th Regiment; let thy Fatherly hand ever be over them; cover their heads in the day of battle; and all those who shall be before the enemy, or who shall sink through sickness, do thou, of thy merciful goodness, receive to thyself, through the

atoning merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

The Rector then addressed the troops as follows:—

The ceremony you have now witnessed suggests some thoughts, which I take this opportunity of giving expression to. And would address myself more especially, in the first instance, to those who have borne these colours, these honored and glorious colours, to this sacred building. The event which you have now witnessed must bring vividly to your recollection the past career of the Regiment to which you are attached. As you look upon these colours now so tattered and time worn, you cannot but recall the occurrences of the many years you have rallied around them in every quarter of the globe. As you have marched beneath their shadow they have reminded you of your most Gracious Sovereign and of the country to which you have the privilege to belong; they have reminded you of the loyalty you owe to your Queen, and they have served to tell you further, that "England expects every man to do this duty"—That these feelings have ever been in your minds, the achievements of the Regiment fully testify. The names inscribed on your colours call back the past, and tell you, as well as ourselves, that they were carried forth on many occasions in a righteous cause and that as you rallied around them shielded by an Almighty arm, and animated by a brave and noble spirit, you achieved the victory and won the praises of a grateful people. On the occasion to which I refer many of your comrades, or predecessors in arms, fell beneath the force of the contending enemy. Peace be with them, we would say; and may the calm and peaceful place of rest selected for these faded and well used banners, remind you of that "rest which remaineth to the people of God."—Having deposited these colours in our Cathedral, you will return to perform your respective duties under new banners, presented by a Prince of the royal blood, proving thereby that there is a link, a close and indissoluble link, between the Queen and the 69th Regiment; banners too consecrated by the Chief Pastor of the Church in this Diocese, and thereby reminding you that you owe allegiance to One even higher than her whose name we venerate, and who ever lives enshrined in the hearts of a loving and loyal community. See then, that in the future you strive earnestly to maintain that marked position you have hitherto held amongst those who are enrolled for the preservation of peace, and, if need be, for the suppression of hostile nations and aggressive foes. See, too, that you never lose sight of the fact that you are Christian men, and that if you would be faithful and dutiful to an earthly Sovereign, the surest guarantee is that you bear true allegiance to a heavenly one. An occasion like this should not be passed over by any of us without producing some serious thoughts. We all profess to be the soldiers and the servants of the Lord Almighty, and have all engaged to fight manfully under the banner of Christ against the world, the flesh and the devil. As we look then upon these time honored colours, let us ever remember how true and loyal the 69th Regiment has been to its Queen, and may we often ask ourselves whether we are, with equal zeal, and equal diligence, endeavoring to please and serve the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. And may grace be given us ever to fight under the Captain of our Salvation, keeping our eye fixed upon that standard whereupon "Excelsior" is inscribed in indelible letters. In conclusion I would say, that it is with feelings of grati-