

America can be open to no such reflection on their conduct. Placed as they are at a distance from the seat of royalty, the lustre which radiates from the throne can hardly dazzle their eyes so as to prevent them from judging with clearness and accuracy of the rank which Victoria will hold hereafter among the great, and still more, the good rulers of mankind. We have got rid of the affectation no less than the bad taste which personifies in a female sovereign the qualities suitable to a great warrior. We do not fail in admiration for the resolution, fortitude, personal courage, and patience in reverses, which are most beautiful in the most gentle, and which are sometimes essential to the chiefs of a great Empire. We believe that the Queen has not been wanting in these. But we justly congratulate ourselves that the Victorian age has been rather remarkable for the triumphs of peace than for those of war, though these last have not been absent when national rights and the liberties of mankind had to be sternly defended. The statue of this illustrious lady, to-day made over to the citizens of Montreal, will not only be a proof of our loyal regard for a wise and unselfish ruler, who, in the midst of the affairs of Government, has never failed to sympathize with every worthy movement of the public or private affections of humanity, of which she has had knowledge, but it will remind us and our children of deeds that may be imitated by the humblest as well as the most august. If there be a part of Her Majesty's Dominions where this or any other token of respect and love could be least reasonably imputed to blind worship or servile flattery, it is Canada, where our own judgment of our Queen is so constantly confirmed by the outspoken admiration of Republican neighbours. The time has gone by when superstition could erect a statue into a Palladium, and believe that the integrity of the Commonwealth depended on the safety of the image. But the domestic affections and household virtues will be well guarded among us, so long as the effigies of the Queen shall teach the appropriate lesson to the city.

Formal Presentation of the Queen's Statue to the Citizens of Montreal.

There are few cities or towns in Great Britain whose principal squares are not beautified with statues of royal or otherwise distinguished personages, and the compilers of books of Continental travel notice, as among the characteristic features of the cities they describe, the monuments which adorn them. It is scarcely to be expected that in a country which has a history to make, and the majority of whose inhabitants are naturally intent on the acquisition of wealth, that attention should turn in this direction; but we have no doubt that in due course our squares and places of popular resort will challenge competition in this respect with those of the Old World. It is necessarily a work of time, but the adornment of our city will, there can be no reasonable doubt, keep pace with its increasing prosperity. The only public statue, which till yesterday the city could boast as its own, was that erected in honour of Lord Nelson, and which, we are gratified to learn, has been so far restored that the artist employed in its renovation has invited the City Fathers to inspect his work in its completed state. Yesterday, (Nov. 21,) however, our city was honoured by the formal presentation to it of a statue of Her Majesty, the medium of the gift being His Excellency the Governor-General. Most of the city turned out to witness the interesting ceremony. It may be superfluous to say that the day was extremely cold. This may not be a matter of regret, as the vastness of the multitude which assembled, despite the severity of the weather, attested most conclusively the loyalty of the residents of Montreal, and, at the same time, their gratification at this ornament being added to the many existing attractions of the city. Of the statue itself we shall not speak,—a full description being given below; but it is due to the subscribers to the fund to thank them for their several contributions, and especially to the Committee for the untiring efforts which have brought the work to so highly satisfactory a consummation. The visit of His Excellency the Governor-General must be regarded almost as a royal acknowledgment of the loyal feeling of our citizens, but were this a forced construction of its import, it could hardly be less gratifying as showing the interest which Her Majesty's representative personally takes in Montreal. The visit being, except as regards the presentation itself—of which we give a full report below—an informal one, it would be indelicate to

describe the efforts privately made to render His Excellency's visit agreeable to him. Further remark on the celebration in introduction of our report of the proceedings is unnecessary, but we may be allowed to express our satisfaction at the heartiness with which our citizens of all nationalities co-operated in giving a cordial welcome to the representative of our beloved Sovereign, and if there could be any doubt in the mind of the most sceptical of the loyalty of Montrealers, such doubt must have been dispelled by the magnificent gathering, the intense interests with which the proceedings were witnessed, and the hearty applause with which every loyal sentiment uttered was received by the vast assemblage.

A holiday having been proclaimed by the Mayor, the majority of the shops and warehouses were closed; the employees were of course at liberty, and in large numbers availed themselves of the privilege accorded. The streets became crowded with people of all classes, who, by common consent, seemed to be wending their way to Victoria Square where, by one o'clock, the masses of people were almost impenetrable, and those who further procrastinated, had much difficulty in securing for themselves positions where even the slightest possible view of what was going on was obtainable. Lines of carriages were drawn up on the streets, from the roofs and inside of which many kept their eyes fixed on the one centre of attraction—the platform to the south of the statue.

The roofs and windows of Wink's Block, St. James Hotel, J. Morgan's store, and every other available eminence which overlooked the Square, were taken possession of by parties anxious to witness the proceedings, the number gathered in the vicinity and upon the Square being upwards of twenty thousand.

There were several platforms erected, packed with juveniles, two thousand of whom, from the Protestant and Catholic schools, had been brought to sing in chorus at the proper stage, the National Anthem and "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The arrangements in the square for the accommodation of visitors were admirable, the decorations were most magnificent, flags and banners being hung around the fence of the square, evergreens twisted round the palisades, and hung in other graceful shapes, hid every particle of wood work, and gave a rural effect, which much enhanced the most gorgeous part of the furnishings. The statue, which was to be presented, had during the early part of the day been "unveiled," thus giving every one an opportunity of looking at the beauties of the sculpture, and the glistening glories of the burnished bronze. Several bands of music, military and civilian, were stationed close at hand, and at intervals gave out the sprightly music which always lends such a charm and attraction to our public demonstrations.

At twenty-five minutes past two, the sound of cavalry was heard coming down the hill, the bands began to play and in a few moments the uniforms of No. 1 Troop of Cavalry were distinguishable. Major Tees, and his troopers were the Governor's Body Guard, and surrounded by our town cavalry, His Excellency a minute or two later drove into the Square.

The band began to play the "National Anthem," and amidst cheers and hurrahs from nearly thirty thousand throats, Her Majesty's representative ascended on the platform to perform his first official act in Montreal. His Excellency rode down in the Mayor's carriage, in which he was accompanied by the Mayor, Mrs. Coursoil and Sir Hugh Allan; Miss Allan, Col. Fletcher, Lieut. Colson, and another A. D. C., occupying the carriage of Sir Hugh Allan.

The vice-regal party having assumed the positions assigned to them on the platform, His Excellency was introduced to the several members of the Statue Committee and City Council. These preliminaries being completed, and they necessarily took up some little time, Mr. WILLIAM MURRAY, President of the Statue Committee, presented Lord Dufferin with the following

ADDRESS:

To His Excellency the Governor-General, the Right Honourable the Earl of Dufferin and Clandeboye, Governor-General of Canada, and Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief over the Island of Prince Edward,

May it please Your Excellency,

The Executive Committee entrusted with the collection and administration of a fund for erecting a portrait statue to Her Majesty in Montreal, acting on behalf of the numerous contributors to that fund, approach Your Excellency and thank you for your presence here to-day.