

the accommodation of tired dancers, and the walls adorned with flags and soft curtains—an ideal spot for “sitting out.” From each loge a specially constructed staircase, draped in crimson cloth, led down to the stage.

The stage itself was beautifully arranged. The background represented a marine scene. Palms and flowers were massed in rich profusion, and, like the loges, chairs were disposed here and there. The front and sides were draped in crimson, and material of the same colour was hung in graceful folds above. A broad flight of steps led from the stage to the dancing floor, and this, like the rest, was draped in crimson. A row of large palms, interspersed with flowers, was disposed along the front. The room to the right of the stage was set apart for the use of Mrs. Kirkpatrick, and that on the left for the Lieutenant-Governor. Under the improvised stairs and on each side of these rooms palms and flowers were placed with excellent effect.

One of the most pleasing features of the decorations was the arrangement of rendezvous, marked by shields bearing, in all the brilliance of vert gules and azure, of or and argent, the heraldic blazonry of several gallant Scottish houses. There were the Lymphad, the Hand and Dagger, and the Cross-Crosslet of the Macphersons, the Chevron gules and the Key sable of the Cassels, the three Leopards of the Cosbys, the three Pheons argent and the Stag Couchant of the Davidsons, the three Fraises argent of the Frasers, the antique Crowns or of the Grants, the Lion rampant of the Macdougalls and the three Roebucks courant of the Raes.

The shields, which were of a large size, and had been executed with the greatest care and accuracy of detail, under the supervision of Mr. William Rae, a member of the Decoration Committee, were draped with the family tartan, and produced a very beautiful effect. On the south side were the armorial bearings of the following