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THE MAPLE CITY HONORS HER VICE-REGAL VISITORS

MAYOR EXTENDS CITY'S WELCOME TO LORD AND LADY MINTO

Public Reception to Their Excellencies at Harrison Hall—
The Governor-General's Response.

A Delightful Drive Through the City—Schools Do Honor to Distinguished Visitors—Charming Scene at Ursuline Academy.

"The Victoria," the handsome private coach of the Governor-General, and the Countess of Minto drew up at the G. T. R. depot at 1:07 sharp. An immense throng of citizens had gathered and the Regimental Band broke into the strains of National anthem as the train came to a stand still.

A guard of honor from the 24th Kent Regiment, 150 strong, under command of Capt. Fred. Stone, presented arms as the vice-regal visitors made their appearance on the platform of the car.

The Governor-General raised his hat and stood at salute during the manoeuvres.

Preceded by Major Maude, the Governor-General's secretary, the distinguished visitors alighted. They were joined by his worship, Mayor McKeough, Ald. McCaig, Ald. Scullard, and Ald. Flagg.

"His worship," he said as he extended his hand.

"Yes, your excellency," replied the mayor, "a most hearty welcome to our city."

Lady Minto's appearance was the signal for a hearty burst of applause. She was charmingly dressed in white and smilingly bowed her acknowledgements. Smilingly she greeted his worship who escorted her to the carriage.

Lady Minto was followed by Lady Eileen Elliott and Capt. Graham, A. D. C. to his excellency. Lady Elliott was also accorded a very hearty reception.

The procession was almost immediately formed. In the first carriage rode Lord and Lady Minto, Mayor McKeough and Major Maude. In the second were Lady Eileen Elliott, Capt. Graham, Ald. Scullard and Ald. McCaig.

Other rigs followed containing the aldermen and prominent citizens. The party proceeded to Harrison Hall via Queen street.

AT HARRISON HALL

An admiring crowd awaited the arrival of the vice-regal party at Harrison Hall. Ex-Mayor S. T. Martin and Dr. J. L. Bray received the distinguished visitors and conducted them to the judges' chambers. Upon the dais, seats had been prepared for Lord Minto, Lady Minto, Lady Elliott, the Governor-General seated in the centre, Lady Minto on his right and Lady Elliott on his left. The interior of Harrison hall had been elaborately decorated in honor of the distinguished visitors. The judges' chambers were festooned with waving folds of red white and blue ribbons that dropped from the central pillar giving a pretty tent effect. The walls were artistically ornamented with folds of red white and blue.



MISS BESSIE MCKEOUGH

Daughter of Dr. Geo. T. McKeough, who Presented Her Excellency, Lady Minto, with a beautiful bouquet on behalf of the Citizens of Chatham.

As soon as their excellencies were seated little Miss Bessie McKeough, daughter of Dr. McKeough gave Lady Minto with a bouquet of American Beauty roses on behalf of the city.

"I thank you," said Lady Minto very graciously and with a charming smile and stooping kissed the fair little maid. "I shall be able to carry this," remarked Lady Minto as she enjoyed the fragrance of the roses. Coincidentally with this presentation, Miss Gladys Taylor, daughter of Ald. George Taylor, presented Lady Eileen Elliott with a beautiful bouquet of lilies of the valley. The charming daughter of the Governor-General very cordially thanked little Miss Taylor and gave her a kiss besides.

Mayor McKeough then welcomed the vice-regal party on behalf of the city.

In reply, Lord Minto, Governor-General of Canada said—I thank all who are here to receive the representative of His Majesty Edward VII. It is indeed a pleasure for us to be present. I have always heard what a delightful country you have in this section of Canada and desired to visit it, but I am sure you will understand that it is very difficult for me to get away owing to the many duties that fall to the lot of the Governor-General and our visit must necessarily be cut to a few minutes. In the address your mayor alluded to the time I was in Canada twenty years ago. Since then the country has been going ahead in all directions. You are indeed situated in the centre of a great agricultural district. I congratulate you upon your prosperity and the general state of business. This part of the country sent men to South Africa to fight for the empire and I congratulate you upon the good showing they made. I thank you very heartily Mr. Mayor for this reception.

Mayor McKeough introduced all who desired to shake hands with their excellencies.

Ex-Mayor S. T. Martin was the first to have the pleasure. He was followed by Dr. Bray, Ald. G. G. Martin, Ald. Edmondson, Ald. Taylor, George Heyward, Ald. Marshall, Ald. Mounteer, Ald. Robinson, Col. Martin, Wm. Robertson, H. S. Clements, City Clerk Merritt, Dr. Munson, Albert White, Thos. French, Rev. Mr. Cobbleback, J. W. White, John Welsh, John Carpenter, Mr. Macdonald, W. H. Gonne, Rev. Mr. Holden, Robert Fleming, Rev. Mr. Henderson and others. Mrs. (Rev.) Dobson, Tilbury, was the first lady to shake hands with the members of the vice-regal party.

The Misses Ryan, Mrs. Robt. Fleming, Mrs. Hugh Macdonald and Mrs. W. E. Merritt also had the honor.

The party then left Harrison hall, being escorted from the building by the mayor and the members of the reception committee.

CENTRAL SCHOOL

Early this morning, under the direction of Principal Flewes, and his able staff, the entrance class were at work decorating the Central school with flags and bunting.

The building makes a delightful appearance, decorated as it is with flags from the many windows and streamers of bunting draped from window to window in a most artistic fashion. Over the main entrance to the school is arranged a large Union Jack supported by a rope from the third storey windows of the two projecting wings of the building.

From the lawn at different points ropes are stretched to the upper windows lined with flags of different sizes.

The work of decorating this beautiful school required a great deal of time and trouble on the part of the staff and entrance class, but when seen by a Planet reporter felt that they were amply repaid for their trouble by the beautiful appearance their work had given the school.

Mr. Flewes states that over six hundred flags were used in the decoration.

When Lord and Lady Minto arrived at the Central school they were greeted by the teachers and members of the entrance class. The girls of the class, with white ensigns, and the boys with Union Jacks, were lined up on the lawn, when Miss Cecil Jordan presented Lady Minto with a beautiful bouquet of pink roses.

As Lady Minto received the flowers she made a gracious and fitting response, "I thank you very much for the flowers," said she. "They are very beautiful indeed, and I am pleased indeed to get them. I hope you will all have a holiday in honor of our visit." James Boyd then presented the new visitors a book for their signatures and Lord and Lady Minto's signatures were the first to be entered in the book.



MISS GLADYS TAYLOR
Daughter of Ald. Geo. G. Taylor, who Presented Lady Eileen Elliott, with a bouquet on behalf of the Citizens of Chatham.

After this well appreciated reception the party passed down Stanley avenue to William, and from thence down William street to King. On Stanley avenue a number of the private residences were decorated.

Mr. J. U. Thibodeau's splendid residence made a very pleasing appearance. It was tastefully bedecked with flags, bunting and the National colors. The Mineral Bath House was also fittingly decorated. The vice-regal party were given an excellent opportunity of viewing Chatham's beautiful park during the drive down William street to King.

COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

From Colborne street the party proceeded to the High school, where elaborate preparations were made for a rousing welcome. The exterior of the school was handsomely decorated with numerous Union Jacks, bunting and the National colors. It is a beautiful building in itself, with its magnificent shade trees and well kept green lawns, and the decorations were all that was wanted to make the scene complete. The scholars were all gathered together on the lawn in front of the school in good form.

The cadet corps in uniform was drawn up in extended order in front of the group of scholars, and as the Governor-General passed they gave the general salute, accompanied by part of the 24th Regiment Band, after which three rousing cheers were given to Lord and Lady Minto. The carriage containing the vice-regal party was brought to a halt while the cadet corps gave the salute. The effect was indeed most striking.

One of the prettiest sights of the drive was to be seen as the carriages of the vice-regal party turned the corner of Victoria avenue to Forest street. The pupils of McKeough school were seated on the lawn under a canopy of flags, the Victoria Ave. entrance draped in bunting forming the background. Numerous strings of bright flags were strung from the corner of the balcony to the evergreen trees on the lawn to form a canopy.

MCKEOUGH SCHOOL

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THEIR EXCELLENCIES LORD AND LADY MINTO

MAPLE CITY'S WELCOME

To the Right Honorable Sir Gilbert John Elliott, Earl of Minto and Viscount Melgund of Melgund, County of Forfar, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron Minto of Minto, County of Roxburgh, in the Peerage of Great Britain, Baronet of Nova Scotia, Knight Grand Cross of our Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor General of Canada:

May it please your Excellency, on behalf of the citizens of Chatham, I beg to extend to you and Lady Minto a hearty welcome to our city and we trust that your visit will be a pleasant one.

We beg to assure your Excellency that our citizens are not behind any of His Majesty's subjects in devotion to the interests of the Empire and in loyalty to the Crown, and it is a matter of deep gratification to us that our Sovereign has from time to time been pleased to appoint to the exalted office of Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada such illustrious persons as yourself and your predecessors.

For many years past our Dominion has been favored with great and general prosperity, and we feel that it must be a source of great pleasure to your Excellency to note the great advances our people have made since your Excellency's first acquaintance with Canada many years ago.

We are pleased to say that situated as our city is in the midst of what we deem to be the garden of the West, we have enjoyed in full measure the general prosperity, and we regret that the limited time at your disposal will not permit your Excellency to visit and inspect our many and thriving factories and commercial industries, many of which have a more than Provincial reputation.

We are also proud of our schools and public institutions and would have been pleased if your Excellency could have inspected them.

We beg to express our sincere appreciation of the kindness of Lady Minto and Lady Eileen Elliott in favoring us with their presence.

On behalf of the citizens of Chatham,

Signed

WM. E. MCKEOUGH,

Mayor.

CHATHAM DONS GALA ATTIRE AND EXTENDS ROYAL GREETING

Streets and Houses Resplendent in Flags and Bunting—
An Impressive Scene.

Guard of Honor Composed of Company of 24th Kent Regiment under Captain Fred. Stone—Thousands Cheer En Route.

Chatham extended a royal welcome to Canada's Governor-General and his fair lady to-day.

The Maple City was veritably en fête. All along the route taken by the vice-regal party the citizens extended enthusiastic greeting. Flags were everywhere in evidence and gorgeous decorations presented a rich and attractive scene.

Exceptionally happy memories will cluster about the brief stay of their Excellencies in the Maple City. So many things of a pleasant description happened, that none who were permitted to participate will readily forget the occasion. Brief though their stay, measured by what was accomplished, it was no brief. Many interesting points were visited and all along en route glad welcomes were extended.

THE DRIVE

Upon leaving the Central school the party proceeded by a circuitous route over the principal streets of the city, passing many of Chatham's important and busy factories and viewing with much interest the beautiful Maple City residences, the most of which were appropriately and effectively decorated in honor of the distinguished guests. As the party passed along the streets, in several places were crowded with interested and patriotic spectators who were anxious to catch a glimpse of the Governor-General of the Dominion and his party, and all through the drive he was greeted everywhere with cheers and other evidences of patriotism and loyalty.

Owing to the shortness of his visit he was not able to stop at any of the factories but viewed them from his carriage as he drove past. In every case the employees were found gathered on the sidewalk and as his Excellency passed he was given ample evidence of the welcome which was felt by every working man in the city.

It was interesting and gratifying also to notice the interest in the visit which caused many of the loyal-minded citizens to decorate and beautify their homes, thus making the city look as bright and attractive as possible. They were much aided in this by the beautiful maple trees which abound everywhere throughout the city. The trees just at this time of the year are very attractive indeed with their green leaves after the long winter months, and the Governor-General must have taken away with him a very favorable impression of the Maple City.

From the Central school the party proceeded down Wellington street to William street, passing the Hadley's factory, Gray's and Milner's. The Hadley's factory was fittingly decorated, and as the party passed they were greeted with cheers from the employees who were gathered on the sidewalk. The same reception met them at every factory all along the route. Every factory in the city was running full time and the Maple City gave everywhere evidences of life, hustle and prosperity.

Passing on William street over the C. P. R. track the next spot of interest touched was the fine new mill of the T. H. Taylor Company. This is one of the finest and best mills in the Province. It was proposed to open this mill to-day on the occasion of the Governor-General's visit, but it was unfortunately found necessary to postpone the opening until to-morrow.

The party then proceeded down Colborne street to Prince, passing the Binder Twine, the Lake Erie and the Manson Campbell factory. This street presented a very busy and lively appearance. It is fast becoming a manufacturing street, and it is very favorably located for such.

KING STREET

The merchants of King street did themselves proud. From the artistic and loyal display which adorned the handsome Hotel Rankin down to the C. P. R. station the street was ablaze with colors.

Each establishment seemed to vie with the others in the effort to lend gaiety and grace to the scene. From the windows overhead, too, fluttered dainty flags and streamers, the whole presenting a picture of riotous richness.

As the vice-regal visitors were escorted down the city's main thoroughfare they were greeted by burst upon burst of enthusiastic applause.

NORTH CHATHAM

North Chatham did its share and did it nobly, to brighten the visit of Lord and Lady Minto to this city and the welcome that thriving borough

extended to their excellencies on its own account was both bright and warm. Victoria avenue was one of the gayest spots in the route traversed by the distinguished visitors. From D. R. McGavin's residence to Judge Houston's and beyond the pretty and palatial residences on Chatham's Fifth avenue were all in gala attire. Gay bunting and bright flags contrasted with the more sombre shades of lawn and foliage and made a scene of ideal beauty. That part of Victoria avenue lying between Forest and Amelia streets was a veritable fairyland and there surely was no spot in the whole city that evoked more admiration. The residences of S. T. Martin, Harry Stevens, Frank Laurie, William Ball, Fred Goodwin, W. J. Moore, J. J. Ross, Jas. Holmes, Hugh Macdonald, T. A. Smith, Judge Houston, Crown Attorney Smith, P. D. McKellar and John A. Walker were all in holiday garb and each contributed in making a perfect scene of matchless splendor. Forest street too had its bright spot in McKeough school. The teachers and pupils in that exceptionally excellent educational institution worked energetically and enthusiastically all morning. The result achieved was a revelation.

Streets of flags formed a laced border beneath which the presentation of a handsome bouquet was made to Lady Minto. The waving canopy of flags and the school concealed amid a mass of small national emblems gave brilliance, while the bright gowns and merry school children gave the scene life.

The residents of Joseph street were not behind and flags and streamers enlivened that pretty street. The business centre of the borough over the Thames at the Aberdeen Hotel a streamer of flags hung across the street.

The decorations at the Ursuline Academy were a feature of the city's welcome. The entrance gate was arched with spring flowers, fruit bloom and foliage and similar decorations arched the lawn and the Academy building was banked with bunting flags and other decorations.

Continuing on the route the next place of particular note by reason of decorations was King street west. All along this residential section of the city the houses were gaily decorated with flags and bunting. Ex-Ald. G. W. Cowan's home was particularly tastefully and richly decorated. Folds of red white and blue bunting circled the building around, while a neat display of flags added a finish to the decorations. Mayor McKeough, Albert White, the Hospital, Henry Stenhens, James Innis, Chas. Austin, W. E. Bishop and others all contributed their share in making this portion of the city a place of beauty.

Lacroix street too along the line of march was in handsome garb and the pretty homes of wealthy citizens were enlivened in splendor by a splendid display of national emblems.



MISS EDITH HALL

Daughter of Dr. Wm. R. Hall, who Presented Lady Minto with the beautifully illuminated address of Welcome on behalf of the ladies of Ursuline Academy.