

legitimate use. The gallant speaker was repeatedly cheered.

The Hon. J. W. Ritchie, Solicitor General was then called on, and delivered a few appropriate remarks. After which the Rev. Principal Ross, first making a few explanatory remarks to the students, respecting the routine of the College, &c., closed with the usual benediction.

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Erection of a Monument to a distinguished Nova Scotian.

THE Rev. Wm. Robertson, in the second of a series of letters published in the *Home Record*, giving an account of his visit to the Waldensian Synod, thus refers to the inauguration of a Monument to the memory of the late General Beckwith:—

"Before I left the Valleys, I was witness of a very interesting and affecting ceremony—the inauguration of the monument lately erected to the memory of my late friend, General Beckwith. All the pastors, members of synod, and deputies of other Churches, then at La Tour, accompanied by a great multitude of the people, walked in procession to the cemetery. A feeling of deep solemnity seemed to pervade the whole assemblage. The monument was uncovered amid the singing of hymns; a fervent and affecting prayer was offered up by Pastor Lantaret; the multitude then adjourned to the church, where a most eloquent and touching address was delivered by M. Meille, of Turin, comprehending a sketch of General Beckwith's eminently useful and devoted life, and a beautiful and faithful delineation of his noble character, his singular disinterestedness, and entire exemption from vainglory, his remarkable benevolence towards man, and his deep piety towards God. The eloquent speaker concluded by alluding, in language of rare beauty and pathos, to the young widow and lovely child of their loved and honored friend still residing in the midst of them, which sent a thrill of emotion through the whole congregation. But this great and good man has a nobler monument than human art or eloquence can raise to his memory—his name is written in Vaudois history, and is engraved on every Vaudois heart. I had frequent opportunities of observing the affection with which his name and memory are cherished, of which the following is an example: In my address to the Synod, I of course referred to my former intimacy with him; and afterwards, while the congregation were leaving the church, an old man pressed through the crowd, and as he extended his hand to me, said, with tears in his eyes, 'I wish, sir, to touch the hand of a friend of the English General's.'"

Many of our readers, no doubt, will remember that the late General Beckwith was a native of Nova Scotia, having been born in Halifax,

in a house near Her Majesty's Dockyard, in the year 1798; and was nephew of the late Chief Justice Halliburton. He entered the Army very young, and was raised to the rank of Captain at the age of 18. His subsequent history has been briefly told in a lecture on "Nova Scotia and Nova Scotians," delivered by Rev. G. W. Hill, of Halifax:—

"His services were many: he was at Copenhagen, Lord Chatham's expedition to Walchereu, and through all the peninsular campaign, in each action signally distinguishing himself for valour and chivalry. During the battle of Waterloo, he was much exposed as one of Sir James Kempt's Staff, but did not receive the slightest wound until the very close of that memorable contest. As he was riding with orders to another part of the field, the last shot fired on that day shattered his right leg. He had seen the ball coming, but could not avoid it; the wound was incurable; the limb was amputated, and he left the service, receiving his Order of the Bath and Lieutenant-Colonelcy in exchange for his sad loss. The physical evil produced moral good. From an unbeliever, he became a Christian, followed the work of his Lord and Master, and achieved a fame in the sphere in which he has been moving, that has placed him far above all that he could have attained to in his profession.

Upon the proclamation of peace, Colonel Beckwith came out to Halifax, and, with the aid of a friend still living, became the founder and patron of the first Sunday school established in connection with a church in his native town. He constantly attended the Aca-dian school,—lending valuable assistance to Mr. Bromley in that noble and successful effort,—and was mainly instrumental in establishing houses of provision for the poor and suffering of the town during several trying winters.

From Nova Scotia, he went to the Swiss valleys, where he inaugurated a system of education, the value of which will only be fully known when we stand at the bar of God. "It is impossible," says the author of the History of the Vaudois Church, "to forget the venerated name of General Beckwith, whose enlightened charity has been displayed in erecting and repairing more than eighty schools in the different parishes of the Vaudois." A superior school for girls was still wanting, but has been formed by the same benefactor. School mistresses and teachers have also been established in various districts, by his generous aid. As an instance of the great love and respect felt towards him by the inhabitants of Piedmont, Mr. Henderson, in his "Travels among the Vaudois," says, that "at the corners of the different roads he saw finger posts with the inscription, 'who ever passes this way, let him bless the name of General Beckwith.'" Although he was at first stigmatised by some opponents of his labours as "The Wooden-legged Adventurer,"