

Joseph Howe Monument in Parliament Square, Halifax



Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Fountain, in Public Gardens, Halifax



South African Soldiers Monument in Parliament House Square, Halifax

IN HISTORIC HALIFAX

By C. E. SMITH

THE city of Halifax, which has seen many changes since the days of New France, keeps in faithful remembrance her gallant sons and great statesmen and the bronze and marble memorials in their honour are such as

sons and great statesmen and the bronze and marble memorials in their honour are such as any city of the Empire might desire.

The oldest of them, the Welsford-Parker monument in old St. Paul's Cemetery, facing the residence of the Lientenant-Governor, recalls to one's mind the old-time Roman arches of triumph, and was erected for two of Nova Scotia's sons, serving in the Queen's army, during the British-Russian war of 1855. The inscriptions on the monument are short, but to the student of history convey a deep meaning, and are as follows: "Sebastopol, Alma, Redan, Welsford 97th Regiment, Parker 77th Regiment." Thus we see Canadians were fighting the Empire's battles over fifty years ago. Around the base of this monument are headstones and graves of the middies and sailors who died at Halifax from wounds received in the famous fight between the Shannon and Chesapeake off Boston harbour, June 18th. 1812.

18th, 1812.

The second in age is the South African monu-

ment, erected at the close of the Boer war. The necessary funds for its erection were raised by public subscription (some \$25,000) through the energy of a leading local newspaper, the Halifax *Herald*. The figure of the man (eight feet) holding aloft his rifle as signal to his comrades, "The enemy in sight," calls to mind to the thousands who daily pass by



Bas-relief, Joseph Howe Monument, showing his famous trial and successful defence.

that Nova Scotians, or rather we Canadians, helped to do our share in Imperial defence. The reading on the front is as follows:

"Erected by the people of Nova Scotia in honour of those who served, and in memory of those who fell in the South African campaign, 1899-1902."

The bas-relief pictures the departure of the troops from the wharf at Halifax. The rear shows

The bas-relief pictures the departure of the troops from the wharf at Halifax. The rear shows a picture of the gunners at Mafeking, and has the names of the following officers: Captain Chas. A. Hensley, John H. Laurie, Lieutenant Harold Borden (son of Sir Frederick), Lieutenant M. G. Blanchard, Lieutenant B. Webster, Sergeant J. E. Pemberton, Sergeant J. R. Margerson, Corporal H. R. Williston.

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To the north or right side, the relief work pictures Witport, and has the names of Privates J. G. Sievert, G. Johnston, J. H. Macdonald, E. S. Purcell, E. Long and J. J. Purcell. To the south or left side, the picture of the last great battle, Paardeberg, is reproduced, and the names of E. S. Banfield, D. G. Macgillivray, A. McVicar and G. Orman are engraved.

Within 200 feet of this monument, the Parliament Buildings of Nova Scotia separating, is the statue of Nova Scotia's greatest son—Joseph Howe. This striking figure of the man, with arm extended, is said to be a good portrait or model of the famous statesman. The visitor or citizen may read on the base the following, which covers well in small compass his successful life: "Joseph Howe, journalist,

orator, poet, statesman, prophet, patriot, Briton. Born at Halifax, December 13th, 1804; died in Government House, June 1st, 1873. I wish to live and die a British subject, but not a Briton only in name; give me, give my country the blessed privilege of her Constitution and her laws, let us be content with nothing less." His body lies buried in Camp Hill cemetery, hidden among shading trees, just aside from the main road, with a simple granite shaft to mark his resting place. A few lots farther on, another of Nova Scotia's famous men. Sir Adam G. Archibald, lies buried.

In the far-famed Public Garden, there are two pretty fountains, erected by the Garden Commissioners and paid for by the receipts from Garden concerts, which though a little different from usual public monuments, are such as deserve mention in this article. The oldest and largest, the Victoria Diamond Jubilee fountain, erected in 1897, is a gem in a perfect setting of floral beauty, when summer is at its best. The other, erected in memory of our South African heroes, is also picturesque and suggestive of a heroic past. These gardens are only some 15 acres in extent, and are a monument to a wise civic government and to citizens who encourage its efforts.



South African Soldiers Fountain, Public Gardens, Halifax



Welsford-Parker Monument in Old St. Paul's Cemetery, Halifax