



THE CORONATION.

EXCEPTING to refer to it as a happily accomplished fact, and simply to record our own efforts to take the part which it was ours to do on that important occasion, it would be vain for us, in our limited space, to attempt to add anything to what has been said upon the subject of the Coronation by countless writers; and we cannot better record the observance of the day at St. Alban's than by the following extract from the *Canadian Churchman*.

"The full Coronation Service of Litany and Holy Communion was held in St. Alban's Cathedral on Saturday, August 9th. There was a large congregation, notwithstanding that the absence of many from town, as is usual at this time of the year, caused some disappointments, especially with regard to clergy who were to have been present. Among those present was a party of about twenty aged and be-medalled veterans of His Majesty's army and navy, one of whom, John William Quinn, was present on duty with his regiment, the King's Royal Rifles, at the coronation of Queen Victoria, in 1838. The Rev. Canon Macnab sang the Litany, and was also the celebrant, assisted by the Rev. Charles B. Darling and the Rev. W. E. Cooper, the latter of whom delivered an excellent sermon, especially pointing out the ecclesiastical or religious aspect of the Coronation, which is really its most prominent and important feature, the 'sacring' or 'hallowing' of the King. Other clergy present were the Venerable Archdeacon Boddy, Rev. Canon Tremayne, Rev. Francis Codd, and Rev. C. J. A. Batstone. The service, which was most impressive, was choral, being extremely well rendered by the choir, and heartily joined in by the congregation. The Cathedral had been decorated for the occasion in accordance with a carefully prepared plan, in which every detail had its especial place, purpose and significance, and which being quite novel, in Canada at least, deserves description in detail. It was intended that the altar should have been dressed with red and white roses, but when the time came none could be obtained, and flowers were substituted, which at a little distance had the appearance of white roses. The white altar frontal was quite in keeping for the occasion, for its stoles are adorned with roses of England and fleurs-de-lis; the latter in the Anglo-Canadian colours of blue on a gold ground; a fleur-de-lis is one of the Royal Coronation badges. The scheme of decoration was heraldic throughout, consisting of appropriate flags of various kinds. These may be technically described as follows: In the chancel north and south of the altar and hanging in front of white satin dossal curtains, two banners of the King's arms, the one on the north side being arranged with the charges 'contourne,' or reversed from the manner in which they usually appear, so as to comply with the rule of heraldry which requires all heraldic charges in a church building to look towards the altar. Above, on

the walls of the chancel, were eight pennons, white charged with a St. George's cross, blue with a St. Andrew's cross, white with a St. Patrick's cross, and blue with a St. Alban's cross, two of each. There were also placed in the sacarium two 'gonfanons,' or ecclesiastical banners, of a design adapted from a figure in the 'Boke of St. Alban's,' 15th century; one of these had been previously in use, and the other was made for the occasion, displaying national badges, and having the date '26th June 1902' embroidered on its reverse. Over the west door were two banners of the empire (Union Jacks); and over the arcades were the national ensigns, white, blue, red, and Canadian, two of each, carried by staves placed perpendicularly to the walls; above these were eight pennons, red, charged with a Tudor rose, yellow with a thistle, green with golden shamrocks and white with green maple leaves, two of each. The flags, which were chiefly made by ladies of the congregation, were all of the best material procurable, mostly silk, it being felt that none but the best which could be obtained would be suitable for the occasion. Copies of the service handsomely printed in illuminated style were used, and all of them were taken away as souvenirs. In accordance with Coronation custom the clergy were provided with white gloves, which were also worn by the choir and officials and many of the congregation. After the service a photograph was taken, showing the chancel, with the choristers, copies of which may be obtained from Mr. Fraser Bryce, King Street West.

The following extract from a letter received by one of the officers of the Cathedral, from a stranger to St. Alban's who came to the service, will be gratifying to those who took so much pains to honour the occasion to the best of our ability. "The Cathedral service was very beautiful, and, in an artistic sense, left little to be desired. The adornment of the church which was most effective * * (we omit a personal reference) was sufficiently done and not overdone."

The Choir boys prolonged their summer outing until 22nd of August, returning to town, however, for the Coronation Service, after which they went back to their camp.

We are informed that the Bishop is expected to arrive home about 14th of September, having arranged to leave England on the 4th inst.

The departure of Mr. and Mrs. Wood from Toronto, on what will probably be an extended tour, deprives us not only of two good friends, but also our President of the Altar Guild, Miss McClure, who accompanies them.

We also lose three valued members of the Choir, Mr. Herbert Parker, Mr. Speight, who have gone to the North West, where it is possible they may decide to settle.

For renovating the bronze mouldings in the chancel, voluntarily done, we are indebted to Mr. Robert Stuart, Jr.

The publication of the Service Accounts for July is deferred until next month.