

Welcomed by their Queen at historic Windsor, lunched at Kensington Palace, honored as visitors at the Houses of Parliament and at the Imperial Institute, cheered at the Canada Club festival, and entertained by the best people of the greatest country in the world, the latest Canadian arrivals from South Africa have much to think and talk about.

It is to be hoped that each and every one of the returned soldiers will find no difficulty in returning to the pursuits of industry, that employment may be found for those who need it, and that they may live long to tell of the majesty and glory of the Empire for which they have fought with so much gallantry and devotion.

**A Promise
to Paint
London Red.**

A recent letter from one of Strathcona's Horse who hails from the city of Montreal contains particulars of an amusing incident which happened on the occasion of the departure of General Buller by the mail steamer.

We quote from the story as told in a Transvaal paper:

"As General Buller was passing from the wharf to the ship there was standing at the other end of the gangway, smoking a cigar, a tall trooper of Strathcona's Horse. As the General stepped on board the trooper touched his big cowboy hat, and shouted: "Waal, good-bye, General." The General looked up and smiled, and at the same time recognising the uniform, said: "Oh, Strathcona's Horse." The trooper said: "You bet." The General put out his hand, shook hands with the trooper and said: "I hope to see your regiment in England. To which the man replied: "I guess we'll get there all right; and tell the Queen we're coming and we'll make things howl too."

It is to be hoped that timely notice will be sent to Her Majesty and the Lord Mayor of London when the Western gentlemen arrive in England. The committee entrusted with the duty of entertaining them are not likely to forget their visit for some time to come, if they carry out their promise to "make things howl."

**The Civic
Salaries
Question.**

In our issue of the 14th inst., when commenting on the proposal to reduce the salaries of the chief officials at the City Hall, we said:

"Reducing the salaries of those officials in the manner in which it has been done, is not from any standpoint commendable, and it is a mistake which should be rectified without delay; indeed it is very questionable whether it is legal. Of course the Council has the power to dismiss the officials."

We may well be excused for expressing satisfaction upon finding that our opinion is upheld, and that this somewhat rash and ill-considered act of so-called Council can now be gracefully abandoned.

All thoughtful citizens will be ready to commend their representatives for being prudent in expenditures, but parsimony in dealing with old and faithful public servants is apt to destroy confidence in their knowledge of the science of economics. We believe in the saving of waste and unnecessary expenses, and we hope the aldermen will find ample opportunity for using their powers in preventing extravagance. Yet the City of Montreal must not be known as looking for cheap labour.

When? When is a life insurance policy in force? In the discussion of this very important question, "The Review" (London, Eng.),

expresses the hope that two cases recently the subject of litigation will be "pushed to an appeal for final decision," or, in other words, fought to a finish, and we sincerely echo the wish of our British contemporary. It is essential that companies and policy-holders should know beyond peradventure where they stand.

The "Review" says:—"Within the space of a few days, comments have appeared in some of our contemporaries, first with regard to the recent action taken by the General Accident Assurance Company to enforce payment of a premium, and then with regard to a case where the premium had been actually paid to the agent, and a covering receipt issued, and yet the company refused to issue the policy. The money was paid on May 28th, and on June 16th the plaintiff was injured in the Slough railway accident, and he brought an action against the Scottish Employers' Liability and General Insurance Company.

"Here we have, on the other hand, a company, the General Accident, bringing an action to obtain premiums; and, on the other hand, a company repudiating liability, although the agent had received the money and given a covering receipt. However, in the action against the Scottish Employers' Liability and General Insurance Company, a verdict was entered for the plaintiff for the amount claimed. Leave to appeal was given."

**Recognition
of Valour.** It is "quite immaterial," as an English paper remarks, whether the Citizens'

Life Assurance Company, Limited, of Sydney, desired to advertise its wares or to stimulate "patriotic sentiment," when it guaranteed an annuity of \$260 for life to the first member of any of the Australian contingents who obtained the Victoria Cross in the South African campaign. The company deserves praise for its action, and the story of the defence of Eland's River by the Victorian Bushmen certainly warrants the belief that the annuity has already been well earned by Trooper Fortune. Surely the coveted distinction has been conferred for less meritorious conduct than his.

A letter to the Melbourne "Argus" tells of the courage of this splendid Australian, and also of a dead hero, who, although only mentioned as a "black