

when summoned away by the loud blasts of war. My friends! I indulge in no fiction or flights of imagination in these allusions to harrowing recollections; they are realities vivid in living memory. There are, amongst us, those whose hearts still bleed at the remembrance of those days so full of anguish,—glorious though they were. Let the historian, then, when he narrates the valiant deeds of our Militia, not omit to add that they were performed in days full of domestic anxiety, disquietude and care, in all parts of the Province; and especially on this frontier, where every home was abandoned—almost every house burnt down, and every farm laid waste—from the Town of Niagara, at one extremity, to Fort Erie at the other. Let him record that the men, whose brilliant acts he lauds and holds up to imitation, had to encounter not only the toils of the campaign and the violence of the foe, but, in tearing themselves from their families and homes, had to encounter the more severe and painful trial of overcoming some of the profoundest and best affections of their nature. It was in scenes such as then occurred that the scourge of war was felt, and that the genuine heroism of a stout-hearted people was most touchingly displayed. It was the sublime of patriotism. By obeying as they did the voice of duty, and standing boldly forward in the foremost ranks, they protected their country in the hour of need, they saved their dwellings from desolation, and shielded their families from impending dangers, and, in the end, they triumphed! They proved that, while our country is true to itself, no foreign power can over-ride its destinies or subjugate its people. Every drop of blood shed—every life lost—in that eventful struggle, did but cement more strongly attachment to the soil and fidelity to the Crown, and did but develope more and more that loyal and martial spirit with which I am ever proud to proclaim the Militia of Upper Canada have been always animated. The Militia of that day acted as became them—and taught by the graphic teaching of example how it would become their posterity to act, should (which God avert) a call of like urgency over again invoke a like energy and devotion in the military service of their country. When we reflect, then, that the Militia were led to their earliest triumphs, and inspired with confidence and self-reliance, by the encouraging example of Brock, that this example and influence were (as it were) the foundation of all that followed his untimely death—we can understand how it is that all adore his memory.

#### INAUGURAL DEDICATION OF THE MONUMENT TO BROCK AND HIS COMPANIONS.

Friends! this fit emblem of a nation's gratitude is now inaugurated. We here dedicate it to the memory of Sir Isaac Brock, and those who fell by his side upon this battle-field—and, through them, to the imperishable memory of all who fell in defence of Canada. It is the becoming offering of an admiring and grateful people to Sir Isaac Brock. It grandly illustrates the affection steadfastly cherished for the heroic champion who, in the dark hour of our adversity, laid down his life in our cause. It is a splendid and imposing proof that half a century has not diminished the public esteem for that noble man, nor dimmed the recollection of his noble actions. It is a consummation in which all proudly exult and warmly participate. It is a commemoration of this anniversary worthy of both the living and the dead. It perpetuates events that shall never be obliterated. It shews forth the spirit of this day, and should future exigencies require it, a like spirit would be aroused half a century to come—yea to the latest posterity—by a people ever prepared to evince that there exists, to the memory of Brock, a Monument more durable than stone, in the patriot hearts of successive generations. Well done, noble Militia! Well done, people of Canada! Let this spot be hallowed to the latest time, honored to the remains of the heroic dead! May they repose in peace until the Judgment morning, when the sound of the last trumpet shall rend this pillar—burst the tomb—and awaken the sleepers to the resurrection of eternal life! One word more. Would that what I have said were better said, and more worthy of the occasion. Before we part, permit me, in the name of Canada, to thank you for your voluntary presence here to-day, to pay these last obsequies at the shrine of Brock. I feel that I may also thank you, in the name of His Excellency the Governor General, who would, I am sure, have joined us, had not a sad bereavement, which we all deplore, prevented his attendance. We have also to regret the absence of our much respected and old friends, Sir John Beverley Robinson and Mr. Justice McLean, both of whom fought at the battle of Queenston, and the latter of whom was severely wounded; but I regret to say that their official duties, in holding the Circuit Courts, deprives us of the honor of their presence, and them of the gratification it would have afforded them to have attended on this interesting occasion. I feel that I may thank you and all the contributors to this pious work, in Her Majesty's name, for this gratifying manifestation of loyalty. In my own name, and in the name of the committee, of which I have had the honor to be Chairman, I most heartily thank you, and all other contributors, towards a consummation which has been near my heart

for many years—an event in which I glory, and which renders this to me one of the proudest and happiest days of my life. And now, remarking that this Monumental pile was commenced, and has been finished, in the reign of our Most Gracious and justly beloved Queen Victoria, I shall close, by proposing to you, what is ever enthusiastically received, and heartily responded to by the Loyal Militia of Canada—Three cheers for the Queen—God bless her!

Cheers for the Queen were given as true loyalists know how to give them; three for Sir Allan and Sir Fenwick Williams, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Canada, [who was introduced by Sir Allan].

Sir Fenwick Williams acknowledged the cheers by bowing several times to the spectators.

Col. Street then proposed an address of condolence to His Excellency, (universal signs of approval) and he was quite sure every man on the ground would join heartily in the expression of that sympathy. (Hear, hear.) Col. D. MacDougall, (an old 1812 veteran) came forward and read the address, expressive of the deep sympathy of the meeting for the loss to His Excellency and family. Col. Clark (another veteran of 1812) seconded the address. In doing so he said he was very sure every father's heart and every loyal subject's heart would join with him on this occasion. The resolution was carried *nem. con.*

General Williams, who was loudly called on, addressed the assemblage. He said he could assure them he was very happy and proud to have the honor of meeting them all here to-day, which arose from the courtesy of his excellent friend, Sir Allan MacNab. It was a source of great satisfaction to him to be present, and to see such hearty co-operation in the work of inaugurating this new monument to Sir Isaac Brock. How consoling it must be to a general and a soldier who came to fight in this country to see such a proof of their lasting recollection. He thanked them once more for the manner in which they had received him, and said that when necessary to lead them on to battle he was ready to command. (Cheers.)

A salute was here fired by the field battery.

Col. E. W. Thompson said he had the pleasure of meeting a few of the veterans of 1812, but many of them had fallen off since they last met there, but if they were not there he was happy to say they had left behind them those who were able and willing to take part in a conflict should the necessity unhappily occur. (Cheers.) It might not be amiss to relate a few incidents of the war. General Brock fell within a few yards of the spot where they were now standing. Many of his comrades had fallen previously and many afterwards. But when they made the afternoon attack, after remaining in the woods for several hours, they rushed forth with the Indians and the colored men to the charge. The Indians raised the war whoop, and made a gallant attack. Near the river a few of the enemy tumbled over the Heights and were drowned, and a few more actually swam across to the American shore. A great number were taken prisoners. (Cheers.) [Col. Thompson was the officer who bore the flag in the heat of the battle—a flag that was presented by the ladies of York.]

Thus terminated the speeches. A dinner was afterwards given in a large pavilion near the monument, at which Sir Allan presided. After dinner some happy speeches were made on the day and the men they had met to honor. The Chairman exhibited a packet of original documents in reference to the late war, which had been forwarded to him by Sir J. B. Robinson, and which would, he said, be placed in the archives of the Province.

This terminated the proceedings. Altogether the day passed off as pleasantly as could be desired; the weather was delightful, the company was pleasant and agreeable, and nothing occurred which would in the slightest degree tend to mar the proceedings. Long may the noble pile last as a monument of the gratitude of the people of Canada for one who shed his blood in defence of their country!

#### II. THE SUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

The last and final expedition sent out by Lady Franklin in search of her long lost husband has returned in safety, and brings the welcome intelligence of the discoveries of traces of Sir John Franklin and his party.

The screw steam yacht *Fox*, Captain McClintock, arrived off the Isle of Wight on the 21st ult., with important documents relative to the missing ships. They were abandoned by their crews off Point Victory, King William's Sound, on the 22nd of April, 1848. Sir John Franklin died on the 11th June, 1847.

On his arrival in London, Capt. McClintock addressed the following letter to the Secretary of the Admiralty:

Sir,—I beg you will inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of the safe return to this country of Lady Franklin's final expedition, which I have had the honor to conduct.

Their lordships will rejoice to hear that our endeavors to ascertain