

CLOSING SCENES

In Connection With the
Visit of the Duke and
Duchess to Canada

HON. DR. BORDEN PRESENTED
WITH MEDAL WON BY
HIS SON.

The Duchess of Teck's Watch
Stolen from the Ophir.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS EXPRESSES
SYMPATHY WITH SYDNEY
FIRE SUFFERERS.

Halifax, Oct. 21.—The royal visit to Halifax and to Canada is finished and their royal highnesses are once more on H. M. S., Ophir, tossing on the bosom of the Atlantic and heading for home via Newfoundland. Their highnesses embarked within 50 yards of the marble slab at the dockyard, on which is inscribed the announcement that it was at this place that his majesty the king, then the Prince of Wales, landed on his Canadian visit 40 years ago.

The marine picture, as the royal yacht steamed down from the dockyard, almost surrounded by ships of the North American fleet, was an impressive one and the booming of cannon from the citadel and forts right out of the bay added to the impressiveness of the occasion.

The hour for which departure was scheduled was 9.30, and at that hour to the minute the fleet and convoys were all ready. The Niobe and Diadem left their moorings about 9.20, steamed straight ahead into the basin and turned, after which they headed down the Narrows, all ready to fall into line.

The Ophir was worked out from her pier with the aid of hawsers fastened to big buoys off the dockyard, and for five minutes lay tugging and pulling at her moorings, as if anxious to be off. While the big yacht lay off the pier the Chatham Marine Band was stationed forward under the bridge and, after the Crescent band had played the national anthem, opened their programme with The Maple Leaf Forever, followed with Auld Lang Syne and Rule Britannia. The band then went "aft" and played Home Sweet Home, Will Ye Nae Come Back Again, and other selections.

In the meantime ships of the fleet which were to accompany the royal yacht and convoys to sea, had all got into place, the torpedo boat destroyer Quail and torpedo boats 61 and 62 in the lead, the Prosperpine, Psyche, Tribune and Pallas being in two lines. Then came the flagship Crescent.

At 9.35 the order was given from the bridge of the Ophir to let go the buoys and it was promptly obeyed. The bow of the Ophir was just to eastward of the big buoy when the lines were let go and the wind and tide were carrying her down on to it. Instead of backing up towards the Narrows, the engineers were ordered to go ahead and astern six times in all, and for a time it looked as if the propeller might possibly foul the buoy. But, after working back and forth, the Ophir finally got clear of the buoy and then backed up toward the Diadem, which was waiting at the Narrows to fall into line. The Ophir straightened out and, with bands playing, flags flying and guns booming, the naval procession moved off down the harbor.

As the Ophir steamed ahead at 9.50, the marine band again played The Maple Leaf and Auld Lang Syne, and the limited crowd on the dockyard piers cheered, while, as if to give the royal party a genuine Canadian send-off, snow began to fall lightly over city and harbor. The ships once steaming into line, the procession moved down the harbor rapidly, but the snow began to fall so thickly that it spoiled the scene as viewed from the city.

His Royal Highness stood on the deck for a few moments while the Ophir lay at the dockyard, and then retired to his cabin. A Halifax newspaper man, who expected to make a trip to England on the Ophir, stood on the wharf and saw her leave. He had his trunks with him, but permission to allow him aboard had not been granted from England.

As the ships moved off, the saluting was begun by the citadel and George's Island, and taken up by each fort as the procession passed it. By 10.30 it was all over and the whole fleet was out of sight.

The flagship will accompany the Ophir, Diadem and Niobe to Newfoundland, and will return here this day week. The other ships, except the Prosperpine, which proceeded to Bermuda, returned to port about noon.

Many citizens at the common Saturday,

when their royal highnesses the duke and duchess drove away after the review, were surprised that the royal couple apparently took no notice of the school children, and in contrast, it was remarked that on the visit of the Prince of Wales to Halifax he showed great interest in the children's gathering. It was learned today that their royal highnesses were unaware of arrangements in reference to the children and the duchess expressed great regret that they did not know of the arrangements.

An interesting incident occurred at the state dinner at government house Saturday evening. As the gentlemen were coming to the dining room, the governor general informed Hon. Dr. Borden, minister of militia, that his royal highness wished to speak with him privately. The minister immediately answered the royal summons and was informed by his royal highness that he wished him to receive from his hands the medal merited by his son, Harold, in South Africa. His royal highness then handed the medal to the minister, with appropriate words of commendation for the brave officer who had given up his young life for the empire, and of sympathy for the bereaved family. The duchess was present during the presentation.

There was some excitement on H. M. S. Ophir last evening, when Prince Alexander of Teck announced that some articles were missing from his room. Although all along, admission to the royal yacht has been difficult to gain, yesterday a number of people were aboard, most of them well-known citizens and officials. But there were some who managed to get there who were prominent in neither society or official circles.

On going to his room after dinner, Prince Alexander missed his gold watch and five sovereigns. The watch was highly valued in his family and had been handed down from generation to generation. The matter was reported to the dominion police, who have attended their royal highnesses on the trip. The fact of the ship leaving this morning, and the care taken to allow nobody on board but those having a right to be there, made it impossible to get at the facts of the case. It was thought the watch and money might have been mislaid and would turn up all right, but whether they do or not cannot be learned until the ship's arrival at Newfoundland.

Sydney, C. B., Oct. 21.—Tonight Mayor Crowe received the following telegrams from the governor general:

"The Mayor of Sydney: I have just received the following message from H. M. S. Ophir, 'The duchess and I are distressed to hear of the disastrous fire at Sydney. Please express our sympathy with the sufferers. Trust no lives have been lost.' (Signed) GEORGE."

To the Mayor of Sydney: Her excellency and I sincerely sympathize with the people of Sydney in the damage caused by the disastrous fire, which we trust may not be as heavy as at first feared. (Signed) MINTO."

ECHOES OF THE FIRE.

No Outside Assistance Will be Required
—Will Rebuild at Once.

Sydney, C. B., Oct.—One hundred men were at work this morning cleaning away the debris after Saturday's destructive fire. Among the ruins, several articles of value have been found. One workman picked up a large roll of bank notes and another discovered a refrigerator full of fowls and products of the dairy. It is expected that the streets through the burnt district will be reopened for traffic in a day or two.

The town council held a special meeting this morning. Councillors Hanrahan and Kimber were appointed a relief committee. A notice of motion was made to establish a brick district in the business section of the town.

Mayor Crowe referred to the valuable service the fire department rendered and he also spoke in high terms of the work performed by the salvage corps, under direction of Capt. White.

At the mayor's suggestion, a vote of thanks was tendered to all who in any way rendered aid to the town, either during the progress of the fire or afterwards.

James Ross, the president of the Dominion Coal Company, wired Mayor Crowe this morning asking the mayor to call on him for any assistance required. Councillor Hanrahan, of the relief committee, said to your correspondent: "We find, after thorough inquiry, that among the people burned out, there are only four or five families at most in destitute circumstances or who will require immediate assistance."

He thinks that Sydney will be able to render all aid required and consequently there will not be any necessity for outside towns to offer financial assistance.

"Yes," he said, "I believe it is the intention of a large number to commence to re-build this fall. We are determined to establish a brick district and I believe we will have the support of all who have the interest of the town at heart."

Councillor Hanrahan remarked that

Sydney was a generous contributor to the big fire in St. John, Windsor and St. John's.

Today the streets were crowded with people and teams hurrying hither and thither with effects which had been removed to places of safety during the fire.

Furniture is pretty well scattered over the town. In the haste and excitement of removal many became so parted from their effects that they do not know just where to look for their property. The loss, even to those whose buildings were not touched, is considerable.

The First Treat.

The first entertainment of the course of six from The Great Eastern Lyceum Bureau, under the auspices of The King's Daughters, will be the Fadette Ladies' Orchestra of Boston. They will appear in the Opera House, Fredericton, Thursday evening, Oct. 24. They are an incorporated orchestra, being organized in 1888. This is their thirteenth season of success and they have established a reputation placing them first in their class. It is their first trip through the Maritime Provinces and the reports from the press of the cities in which they have just appeared are unanimous in their praise of the merit of this organization. While they realized the fact that they were fine they all unite in saying that they exceeded their highest expectations by far. This splendid orchestra is composed of twenty-two of Boston's most cultivated and talented young ladies, and they render a program of standard and classical music, supplemented by a pleasing variety of music of the lighter grade for the encores.—d.

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