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EDITORIAL.

THE NATION'S HOMAGE.

His Majesty the King in his Message to the Dominions troops who took part in the triumphal march through London, on Saturday last, interpreted the mind of the nation, and expressed what every spectator of that historic Pageant would wish to convey to the splendid men to whom London paid homage, as, on foot and on horse, bearing their honours modestly, fearless and erect, they passed along to salute their King at Buckingham Palace.

The Message, dated from Buckingham Palace and bearing the Royal Arms, will be treasured, in days to come, in the furthest outposts of Empire by the children and children's children of the heroes of the Great War.

THE KING'S MESSAGE.

"Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men of the Over-seas Forces,—It is with a heart full of pride and gratitude that I take your salute to-day as you march in triumph through London. The peoples of the British Dominions beyond the seas, by their instant readiness to share in the trials and responsibilities of the Great War, have shown to the world the unity of the British Empire.

"You, with your comrades from the Mother Country, vied with one another in noble deeds, which will ever be held in proud remembrance. Readily you adapted yourselves to the changing conditions of a new and formidable kind of warfare, and endured physical hardships and exacting mental strain. Whether on the plains of Flanders or the heights of Gallipoli, in France, in Palestine, or other theatres of war, you displayed gallant endurance in defence and vigorous initiative in attack.

"We and future generations will never forget the part played by the Canadians in the second battle of Ypres and on the Vimy Ridge; by the Australians and New Zealanders at Gallipoli and in the advance in France in the spring of 1917; by the troops of all three Dominions in the breaking of the Hindenburg

line last year; by the South African Brigade in Delville Wood, and by the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at Monchy le Preux.

"Now in the day of victory I wish to express to you, who represent the Over-sea Forces, my unbounded admiration for the splendid feats of arms and for sacrifices made. I wish you all God-speed on your homeward journey, with a hope that the outcome of this world struggle may assure peace to your children and to your children's children."

It was a glorious sight as the Canadian Cavalry Brigade, headed by Lieut.-General Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., commanding the Canadian Corps, and accompanied by his staff, led the way mounted on a splendid charger—a supreme moment in the life of a man. The flags for which the Dominions' troops had fought and died decorated the streets, overhead airships and aeroplanes acted as a guard of honour, the military bands played inspiring music, instinct with the note of victory, and from the pavements the crowds roared their greeting and homage, as the men swung by, their regimental colours carried proudly aloft above the flashing bayonets, and with guns two abreast.

Following the Canadians came the representatives of seven Australian divisions, led by Lieut.-General Sir H. C. Chauvel, K.C.B., superb horsemen, who won their laurels in Gallipoli, Flanders, and Egypt. A battalion of New Zealanders were led by Brigadier-General R. Young, and the South African contingent by Lieut.-Colonel Thackeray, C.M.G. The Newfoundland Regiment lost none of the warmth of their greeting from the fact that they brought up the rear of the long procession. No one could see the magnificent Pageant of Victory unmoved, remembering that but for these heroes, and others whom they represented, the fair counties of the British Isles would have been laid waste as are Provinces of France and Belgium.

Well might London pay homage to the heroes of the Empire, and greet them with all honour.

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