

## FIRST VICTORY SHIELD.

Rev. E. W. Matthews, Sec. of British Sailors Society, Presents  
One to Local Institute.

Considerable interest was added to the Sailors' Concert last night by the presence of Rev. Edward W. Matthews, the Secretary of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, of London, Eng., who, on behalf of the parent society, presented the Sailors' Institute with a Strathcona Shield, and Memorial Plaque, made out of the copper of Nelson's flagship the "Victory," and also with a cheque for £10, with the request that it should be used for the furnishing of a room in the Institute to be known as the "Nelson Memorial Room." In his remarks, Mr. Matthews stated that in some respects the building of the Sailors' Institute in Montreal was a unique one. The Concert Hall was the largest and finest he had seen, and the provision for the care of the stewardesses was something absolutely new to him.

Mr. Bell, in thanking Mr. Matthews, and the Society which he represented, for the gifts said that he would be glad to recommend to the Board of Management to call one of the rooms after England's greatest sailor, and that the memorials be placed in that room. Mr. J. M. M. Duff, who presided called upon the sailors present to give three hearty cheers for Mr. Matthews, the "Archbishop of all the Seas," and they were given with a will.

The programme for the evening was arranged by Mr. Brooks, of Olivet Church, and Mr. George Hodge. The performers included Mrs. Priestly, Messrs. T. Coop, H. Mortimer and Waite, who sang, Mr. Miller, who recited and Mr. F. Caskell, who played violin selections. Among the sailors who sang were Mr. Leslie Bolton, W. J. Smith and Robert Woods, of the Tunisian. Miss Meyers was accompanist.

Mr. Matthews, who arrived in Quebec on the Empress of Britain, takes part in the opening of the New York Seamen's Institute next week. Towards this institute Mrs. Russell Sage gave \$150,000. Mr. Matthews will then visit the educational authorities of the various provinces and hopes to complete arrangements for the presentation of victory shields to schools of Canada. Through the kind help of Lord Strathcona, the Society is endeavoring to do this.

Lord Strathcona is president of the Canadian Branch of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society. His Lordship's desire is that every school in Canada, from Atlantic to Pacific, may have an opportunity of securing this Nelson Shield, which is of much historic interest. He hopes that annually a paper may be written on a sailor subject, which will be of educational and patriotic value to the youth of Canada; and that the Shield will be presented on prize day, and held by the successful scholar for the year. It is composed of pure Nelson copper, and is a work of art. On the upper corners are the oak and maple leaf.

In the upper centre is the historic ship "Victory" under full sail. In the lower centre is the bust of Nelson, on one side of which is his immortal flag signal, and on the other the date of the momentous day in the nation's history. At the bottom, upon the scroll, are the following words:—  
"Made of copper from H.M. ships  
"Victory" and "Foudroyant." Present-

ed by Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., through the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, for Canadian schools, 1900. E.R. VII."

The Ministers of Education in the various Provinces are co-operating with the Society. Any gifts from the schools will go towards the Canadian Annex of the Passmore Edwards Sailors' Palace, in London, and to the Nelson Centenary Memorial Fund, to be used for work among seamen in Canada and other ports.

Lord Strathcona gave £1,000 for the preparation and distribution of these shields. Where the schools accept them it is understood that a donation will be made to the Nelson Centenary Fund. Mr. Matthews states that New Zealand schools have already contributed £1,200.