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PUBLIC FUNERAL OF THE LATE FIELD-MARSHAL ARTHUR, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, K.G.

College of Arms, 4th December 1852.

THE QUEEN having been pleased to declare Her Royal will and pleasure that the Interment of the late Field-Marshal Arthur, Duke of Wellington, K.G., should be solemnized in the Cathedral Church of St Paul with all the honour due to his eminent public services and transcendent merits, the EARL MARSHAL received the Royal Command for the purpose of carrying into effect Her Majesty's pleasure accordingly.

The Military Arrangements were under the immediate direction of Viscount Hardinge, G.C.B., the General Commanding-in-Chief.

On Wednesday evening, the 10th November, at seven o'clock, the remains of the late illustrious deceased were privately removed from Walmer Castle, in a Hearse drawn by four horses, attended by an escort of the Rifle Brigade, and followed by three Mourning Coaches, each drawn by four horses, in the first of which were the Marquess Douro (now Duke of Wellington), Lord Arthur Hay, and the Captain of Walmer Castle (John J. Watts, Esq.); in the second, Thomas Charles March, Esq. Chief-Clerk of the Department of the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household; and in the third, Mr Kendall and Mr Collins, servants of the deceased: Minute Guns were fired from the ramparts of Walmer Castle whilst the Procession moved from thence to the Station at Deal. From the Station the Body, attended by the Marquess Douro and the other persons who had followed in the Mourning Coaches, was conveyed by Special Train to London, arriving there at twelve o'clock; and thence, being followed as before, the Body was conveyed under an escort of Life Guards to Chelsea Hospital, where, about three o'clock in the morning of Thursday the 11th, it was received by Norman Hilton Macdonald, Esq., Comptroller of the Lord Chamberlain's Department, and by a Guard of Honour of the 2d Battalion of Grenadier Guards, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable James Lindsay; and a similar Guard of Honour, furnished by the brigade of Foot Guards, mounted daily, until the Remains were removed.

The Remains lay in State in the Great Hall of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea; the arrangements being under the direction of the Lord Chamberlain.

The Octangular Vestibule, leading to the Great Hall, was hung with Black Cloth in the form of a Tent, and illumined by a Chandelier of eighteen lights, suspended from the Ceiling. On the side opposite the entrance was a Trophy of thirty Flags, from the Hall of the Hospital, and grouped around the Royal Arms, the whole being surmounted by the Royal Standard of England. On the other side of the Vestibule were Escocheons of the deceased.

The Walls of the Hall were hung with Black Cloth, decorated with the Armorial Escocheons of the deceased, and the Ceiling draped with the same material, to represent a Tent. The width of the Hall was divided into five parts by four rows of colossal Candelabra, and at the upper or western end was a Dais, reaching across the whole width, having on it twelve Candelabra of four lights each, and ten Columns composed of Spears, covered with Black Velvet, powdered with Laurel Wreaths and Escocheons. The Coffin, covered with Crimson Velvet, was raised upon a Bier on which was a Black Velvet Pall garnished with Escocheons, and at its foot were suspended the Insignia of the numerous Orders of Knighthood conferred upon the illustrious deceased. Upon Pedestals projecting from the Rail surrounding the Bier, were arranged upon Black Velvet Cushions, the British and Foreign Field-Marshal's Batons of the late Duke, surmounted by the respective National Flags; and upon others, at the head of the Coffin, were placed the Great Banner, and the Banner of Wellesley; the Guidon, the Standard, and the Bannerols of the lineage of the deceased were ranged on either side the Bier, and the Majesty Escocheon (upon a Cloth of Gold), was suspended from the Wall at the head of the Coffin. In front of the Dais was a trophy of the Surcoat, Sword and Targe, Helm and Crest, and the Spurs of the deceased. Over the Bier was a Canopy of Black Velvet (lined with Silver Tissue and enriched with Silvered Cornice and Vallance, Escocheons, Pennons, and Plumes), from which depended four Curtains, also of Black Velvet (similarly lined), edged with Silver Lace.