

Hunter Esq.
F. S. St.
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Esq.
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highest reward that it is in the power of our gracious Sovereign to bestow. We have thought it only right that our ancient Guild, dating as your Lordship is aware from 1469, and therefore in the 446th year of its corporate existence, should signalize the deep interest which we feel in their noble behaviour, and your Lordship, by inviting us under this historic roof and presiding over this gathering, not only adds lustre to the presentation about to be made, but identifies this great City with the appreciation which our Company rejoices to be able to give expression to.

or Warden
Esq. M.A. B.C.L.

In this Country, my Lord, we have two orders of chivalry which are recognised the whole world over as being of the very highest standing and distinction. The Order of the Garter is reserved chiefly for those of Royal, Princely, or Noble birth, great Statesmen, and great Soldiers like the lamented Field Marshal Earl Roberts. The Cross instituted by that great Sovereign of happy memory, Queen Victoria, to which she gave her own revered and honoured name, requires no qualifications of rank, birth, social distinction, power or influence. It is the mark by which some of the bravest men the world has known are singled out for the respect and the admiration of their fellow-men. It has always been awarded with the most jealous discrimination, and there is no wearer of the Victoria Cross who is not an example of the highest conception of duty.

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The Worshipful Company of which I have the great honour of representing today has voted to each of these Musician recipients of the Victoria Cross a gold watch with a suitable inscription, and it is now my most agreeable duty, in presenting them to your Lordship, to announce, with the military brevity of the London Gazette, the exploits in honour of which we are assembled.

The Master here read the extracts from the Gazette which are appended.
We have with us Colonel Somerville the Commandant and Major Stretton the Musical Director of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, to which, as well as to the Royal Naval School of Music at Eastney, our Company

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