

Six-foot high bronze plaque in Christ Church commemorating the Treaty signing (in English and Russian) was destroyed when the church burned in 1963. Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.

## CHRIST CHURCH SERVICE - クライスト教会での感謝祭

Following the signing, the Russians left directly for a service of thanksgiving held in Christ Church. The sanctuary was overflowing with dignitaries, religious leaders, and local residents. According to the *Portsmouth Times* the "most thrilling incident of the service" came when Father Hotovitsky presented the two Russian diplomats with a crucifix: "The baron fell on his knees to embrace the sacred emblem," while Witte "gave way to his emotions and wept like a child."





Interior and exterior views of Christ Church where a service of Thanksgiving was held after the treaty was signed. Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.



Witte leaving the peace service. Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.



Icon of St. Alexander.

St. Alexander was martyred by the Bolsheviks. Father Alexander Hotovitsky, a renowned missionary of the Russian Orthodox Church in America, was later martyred by the Russian Communists and eventually was made a saint, but on this day his topic was peace. Speaking before the congregation, he told Witte and Rosen,

"I congratulate you, on the great victory you have won over feelings that are natural to all Russians, since it was truly hard for a nation as proud as ours is to make peace with Japan, after what we have experienced at her hands."

## **GIFT TO THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE** - ニューハンプシャー州へのお礼

Later at the hotel, Komura made a courtesy call on Governor McLane and gave \$10,000 to the state in gratitude for hosting the treaty and then visited the hotel staff distributing \$1,000 in tips. Three days later the Russians also gave the state \$10,000.

## Dear Sir:

As a slight token of high appreciation for the many marks of courtesy and consideration which have been shown to the plenipotentiaries of Japan and their suite during their sojourn in the State of New Hampshire, we take the liberty to enclose herewith a check for the sum of ten thoudsand dollars (\$10,000), which we request you will be good enough to utilize for such charitable purposes in the State of New Hampshire as your excellency may deem fit.

Thanking your excellency in advance for the trouble which we trust you will have the kindness to take on our behalf.