

PART.

tion to public mor- seems reasonable should make use of the Mont- Parliament has at ces to the harbor Montreal. Interest paid on these ad- proposed now to or additional wharf at the government condition on these harbor works ex- shall be subject to the minister of pub- lic works, and Mr. Tarte said to his power propose of the ex- penditure should be the dominion But Mr. Tarte does of it. He insists that virtually be vetoed on the plan harbor board, the shipping men today he insists expenditure under quarters of a mil- ed in improvements of the town.

and the harbor interests chiefly con- to make such ap- of Montreal and by the bills, and the not want to incur any think can give money paid out. The of trade in these in the report of last stood that certain having the sym- interested in the and of the city, and Mr. Tarte is largely advantage. This by the Montreal Poeter read the Witness speaks of al job," and insists refuse to have th, even though thrawn. It claims to better to borrow credit than to use t to get money, Mr. Tarte is com- away. The Wit- financial author- that the harbor row all they need loan of a million 2 per cent, is more than of two mil- quarters of a mil- ed again it says: Prefontaine are thing through they asked the har- commit itself to a site had been here was no plan, has not been est- mission is asked deed with the ex- unplanned, un- fact as it proceeds on of the har- handed, considered ren half executed in or twenty years, that was made and that is that a whole has not a jobbery. om Mr. Bicker- the premier and culture were op- that Mr. Tarte ment is trying to h."

o is also a liberal as one of the de- government to talk He reported that culture himself had red the commis- to spend the d be of the great- t. All these might up when the re the house. Mr. at at the quota- He declared d treated him in manner and with He denied that erest in the pro- be used by his one said he had. at his friends had and if he had not with incre- recent concession weeks ago Mr. red that he had uth in regard to the purchase of Montreal, because the tory propo- Mr. Tarte pro- in regard to never know how ing in order to ty of the tory

by the Witness took place when Montreal met in a conference seems to be true present at that Mr. Fisher and government. Mr. bor commission, e Montreal mem- The report states ed that the east- ed be considered habited by the cent. Mr. Fisher rior of allowing in the confer- But for them nister or a mem- u are a member u owe it to Unfortunately id to have ad- he French-Can- an example of e make every day

against these fanatics in the council of ministers to have justice rendered the French-Canadians whom I represent in the cabinet. There lies the secret of my annoyance, expect- enced by the liberal party in the province." Mr. Foster read these reports and proceedings and the Witness's opinions, which of course called forth the statement of Mr. Tarte that the Witness was an enemy of his and that when it attacked him it was in the control of a man who should never be in charge of an important news- paper. Mr. Foster addressed himself to Sir Richard Cartwright, who replied that he paid no regard to anonymous newspaper attacks.

Mr. Tarte seems to have Sir Richard well under control and he has got his own way so far in the attitude of the government towards the port of Mon- treal. If Mr. Tarte insists upon in- creasing three quarters of a million dollars pledged to construction of a French speaking dock in Montreal east, the harbor board will have to build it, whether it is needed or not. The Witness says that this is the begin- ning of an expenditure which in the end will amount to several millions and will give no return. On Saturday and will give no return. On Saturday after Sir Richard's repudiation of the Witness, it again declared that Tarte's conditions "are political jobbery intend- ed not to accommodate trade, but to spend money to secure votes and con- ciliate political interests." Regarding Sir Richard's Witness says "two or three years ago who would have as- saulted a government so effectually as Sir Richard Cartwright," under the circumstances. The Witness asks whether Sir Richard insinuates slan- der against those who opposed Tarte's scheme because he is a colleague and Mr. Tarte, and declares that his charges of irresponsibility against the Witness are unworthy of him.

But the job, as the pious Witness calls it, will be forced through. Mr. Tarte is supreme. Mr. Fisher may look after the San Jose scale and his Brome grass. Sir Richard may as well confine his attention to the fast line steamships, and the other minis- ters must consent to be effaced. Mr. Mulock, who has become one of the most humble minions of Mr. Tarte, declared that Dr. Sproule was con- ducting himself in a cowardly man- ner in repeating the charges of the Witness without taking the responsi- bility of accusing the minister of corruption. Dr. Sproule took excep- tion to the charge and so led up to an interesting episode. The deputy speaker, Mr. Brodeur, is not much of an authority on rules of order. The other day he decided that it was par- liamentary for one member to call an- other a gutter snipe. This ruling he found inconvenient afterwards, when opposition members announced their intention of availing themselves of this new liberty in the choice of epi- thets. On Friday Mr. Brodeur ruled that Mr. Mulock was quite in behavior in a cowardly manner. Mr. Sproule thereupon demanded that the speaker be called in. Speaker Edgar was dis- creet in his rulings than Mr. Brodeur and Mr. Mulock immediately ex- pressed his willingness to withdraw the remark. But it was too late. Mr. Brodeur and Dr. Sproule insisted that since the question and so led up to by Mr. Brodeur in one way, it was necessary for purposes of precedent to determine what should be the rule hereafter. The speaker arrived and announced that the words used by Mr. Mulock were improper. Sir James Edgar went on to remark that this was not an appeal from the chairman to the speaker, but that it must be understood that the speaker was in the chair the whole time. His decision would therefore have to be regarded simply as a change of mind in the part of the presiding officer. Mr. Brodeur accepted the speaker's decision, but will no doubt lay him- self open to another one like it the instant some bullying minister asks him to do so.

The affair of Mr. Bate's contracts is not yet settled in parliament, but it was made clear on Saturday that Bate received a very handsome contract to supply provisions for the Yukon con- tingent practically at his own prices and without competition. Mr. Foster asked why there were no tenders called for and was informed that there was no time for them. When it was shown that two-thirds of the goods, amounting to some \$25,000 worth, had not yet been taken on board, long af- ter the contract was awarded, it was clear that there was nothing in that point. Mr. Borden claimed that there was competition inasmuch as propo- sitions had been asked from more than one person, but he was not able to show that more than one person had been asked to tender for the same article. Mr. Bate, who is a rich Ont- ariawan, and a generous contribu- tor to campaign expenses, was asked to tender for certain provisions, and if another man was asked to tender for clothing he could hardly be called a competitor with Mr. Bate. Now Mr. Borden is perhaps disposed to deal rea- sonably in these matters. There is reason to fear that the Bate influence was exerted over other ministers whom Dr. Borden was not able to overrule. But that will be discussed more fully in the future.

Once more the government is under obligation to the senate. The Sons of England Benefit Society has been proposed by Mr. Fielding in the com- mittee of the commons. The minister of finance and insurance inspector de- clared that the society was not char- itable enough rates to be safe and demanded that they should change their system as a condition to getting their bill through. They made the same demand of the Ancient Forest- ers. The Foresters consented and got their legislation. The Sons of Eng- land refused and got their bill through committee in spite of the ministers. If the unanimity vote and commons over the unanimous vote and against the earnest appeal of the ministers present. In the senate com- mittee Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Wood took the ground that Inspector Fitz- gerald had taken in the commons committee. They succeeded in con- vincing the committee that the bill ought not to pass, and it was defeat- ed. It is not certain that they were

right. There are many companies in Canada whose rates are as low as those of the Sons of England, and the Sons of England may claim that an unfair discrimination has been made against them. The government prom- ises legislation next year to put all on a level and make them all safe, and the question is whether the Sons of England and the Ancient Foresters might not have been left with the rest until permanent legislation would put them all on the same level. Senator Ferguson takes the ground that as legislation is to come next year it is not wise to make the vested rights any larger in the meantime than can be avoided. Whatever the rights of the carry may be, the senate has shown that it is capable of taking non-partisan action and even of re- scuing the government from the con- sequences of a defeat received in the other chamber. S. D. S.

TROOPING THE COLOR.

The Brilliant Ceremony at the Horse Guards.

The army has its ritual as well as the church. The liturgy of the drill book is about as elaborate and as ornate as the liturgy of the church. The ceremonial observed at a royal review, on the consecration of colors, is firing a feu-de-joi, or at a funeral, and in a minor degree during the re- ceiving and posting of guards and sen- tines, is minute and rigid and impos- ing.

But none of all these quite ap- proaches in brilliance and impressiveness the ceremonial of trooping the color, as it is carried out on the Horse Guards parade, to commemorate each sovereign's birthday of the reigning sovereign.

In the heart of the kingdom, on a parade ground set in trees and framed with stone buildings of stately if ir- regular proportions, distinguished by the presence of royalty, and carried out by the picked regiments of the British army, the big ceremonial of the color at Whitehall is to the same ceremony else where what high mass in St. Peter's is to high mass at a pro- cathedral in partibus.

From a military standpoint the ceremony boasts of quite a respect- able antiquity. It goes back to the time of powder and the quest, to the sovereignty of George II., and the colony of the Duke of Cumberland.

Its origin is not judged by the standard of today, so honorable to the officers of the army as a picturesque ceremony deserves to be.

It was in fact, a military exercise for the purpose of testing the val- ue of the troops, who were never in a fit state to go on parade at six o'clock in the morning. Their colonel, therefore, de- vised this elaborate parade which compels each officer to march direct to his post, in the straightest of straight lines to reveal to the smallest suspicion of a stagger, betraying the victim of too prolonged rotations.

The necessity for such a parade has vanished with a vanished age and its different code of morals. On Saturday the officers who took part in the cer- emony, from major the Marquis of Winchester, 1st battalion Coldstream Guards, in command of the escort, to the lieutenant for the color, could and did walk a straight line several times without the slightest faltering.

The feeling of rain was in the air, and all the middle-distance was filled with mist, rising between the trees of St. James' Park, and the beams of a sun striving to shine on royalty and the army as it always should shine.

About half-past ten o'clock the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught and the Duke of Cambridge, in Guard's uniforms, and the Duke of York as hon. colonel of the 2nd West York militia, preceded by the com- mander-in-chief, and followed by Sir Evelyn Wood and Major-General Bur- nett, arrived on the parade ground, to the accompaniment of the royal salute. The Prince rode up and saluted the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of York, the Duchess of Connaught, with the little Princes Edward and Albert of York, and the Princesses Margaret and Victoria, of Connaught, at their windows in the levee room.

The ceremony as laid down was im- mediately proceeded with. The in- spection of the line, the marching and turning of the band and drums, the "troop," the drummer's call, the marching of the escort to the tune of the British Grenadiers, the reception of the color first by the sergeant-ma- jor, then by the lieutenant for the color, the playing of God Save the Queen, as the Queen's color was being trooped, the filing of the escort between the ranks of the guards from left to right, the halt, "the march past," in slow and quick time.

Then at the command, "To your guards—quick march," the Color- guards, who supplied the color, and the Queen's guard for the day, march- ed off to St. James's Palace with the massed bands and pipers, the royal princess and staff rode away down the ranks of the guards from left to right, the halt, "the march past," in slow and quick time.

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