



AFTER THE TOSS.

MR. MULCAHY (on recovering from the shock)—“ Oh, yez needn't stan' there bowin' an' scrapin'; yez did it on purpose, so yez did ! ”

“ And now farewell !
Good-bye, your sky-like seas, your sea-like skies,
Your green bananas and your giant leaves,
Your palms which never die, but stand
Immortal sea-marks on the strand ! ”

And when, after a safe voyage to his native country, and a long ride in the train he once more came in sight of the Ambitious City, we suppose he went out on the platform of the car and, with impassioned gesture, shouted :

“ And hail Hamilton !
Hail ! your mount-like hill and your hill-like mount,
Your morning 'Tator and your Evening Times,
Your blondes who never dye but stand
And sing in chorus at the Grand.”

THE Kingston *Daily News* drops a briny tear because, although we spend about a million and a quarter annually on the military branch of the public service, we quite fail to “ foster the military spirit and to develop soldierly habits among the volunteers.” It may be that the money in question is mis-spent, and if so Sir Adolphe Caron ought to be requested to give the matter his attention. Some military organization we no doubt require for possible emergencies, but the absence of “ the military spirit ” is something for us to rejoice over. This western world is rapidly outgrowing the idea of “ glory,” which was proper enough to the childhood of the race. The glory of to day is to save life, not to destroy it.

MAYOR CLARKE will please accept the assurance of our profound consideration, and permit us to join in the pæan of praise which has ascended to the civic dais for his refusal to sign the contract granting a five-year monopoly of the merry-go round, etc., at the Island Park. To be sure, his refusal was based upon a technicality, but we take it as expressing his opposition to the small-potato plan of raising money by taxing the children on their play.

MR. TAYLOR, M.P., has, for the present at least, withdrawn his bill against the importation of alien

contract labor. Who knows but that he has done so for the purpose of amending it by providing for the imposition of a duty more or less high on all sorts of labor coming into Canada? It may possibly have struck him that this is the only way in which native workmen can be protected, and that Jack has as good a right as his master to the protecting wing of the tariff.

SIXTEEN and three quarters mills on the dollar. So runs the dictum of our city fathers as to the tax-rate for the year. It's pretty steep for the sort of thing they're giving us in the way of water, sidewalks and roadways. Increase of population doesn't seem to help us any. What we need is more revenue from the franchises owned by the city. If we are wise enough to keep the street railway in our own hands, making no reduction in the fares, excepting for an hour in the early morning and evening for the benefit of the toilers, we could add half a million or so per annum to our present income, and this would enable us to cut down the tax rate considerably.

THE Prohibition question is once more before Parliament, and the outlook is bad for the straddlers and dodgers this time. Heretofore these valiant gentlemen have got out of the difficulty by pleading that the country isn't ripe for prohibition. The resolution this year asserts that the necessary ripeness has now arrived. It will be a straight yes or no to the principle, therefore.

MR. MERCIER has been created a Count by His Holiness the Pope. But as yet the astute Quebec Premier has not had an opportunity of exercising his arithmetical title on the few millions he went to Europe to borrow. As he left Rome Count, he will probably leave Paris Baron.

WE are more than astonished—we are alarmed and shocked—to find in that loyal paper, the *Empire*, an insidious joke at the expense of Her Majesty the Queen. In an article on the Queen's late sojourn at Grasse, the editor says the visit will remain a green spot in Her Majesty's memory. This is atrocious enough to be the work of a pestilent Unrestricted Reciprocity person.

QUINTESSANCE OF PARLIAMENT.

(BY OUR VERY SHORTHANDER.)

OTTAWA, May 11th.

PARLIAMENT resumed business at 3. Members of Ministry introduced couple of unimportant measures.

Mr. Clarke Wallace. Bill to amend Act against Combines. Read first time.

Mr. Chapleau answered some questions.

Mr. McMullen wanted to know if Government intended bringing down legislation on Prohibition.

Sir John said 'twas under consideration of the Government.

House laughed.

Mr. Tarte exploded his long-talked of bombshell, charging Mr. McGreevey, M.P., with boodling, and Langevin, Minister of Public Works, with winking thereat.

Sir H. Langevin said “ these hands are clean.”

McGreevey said, me too.

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections.