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Editorial.

THE GUARD PIER AT MONTREAL.

We observe, by our exchanges, that this question has been brought up by Sir William Hingston, and has been animadverted upon by him in the Senate—and none too soon. When conservative bodies as the Medico-Chirurgical Society, the Provincial Board of Health, and the City Health Board, are agreed as to the noxious influence of an obstruction to the free flowing of the St. Lawrence to wash away the city's sewage, and the offensive discharges from the vessels which line our harbor, it is time, we think, for our wise Harbor Commissioners to halt for a moment, and to ask themselves: are not the advantages of increased accommodation, and the possible protection from an occasional ice-shove, most dearly purchased by the erection of this standing menace to the health of the citizens of Montreal? Anyone visiting certain parts of the harbor will recollect the offensive smells, the foul odors which they received into their nostrils last summer. That these were as hurtful as they were disagreeable is evidenced by the facts mentioned in the report of the inspector of the Provincial Board of Health—Mr. Beaudry—that many cases of fever were the result. We quote a few lines from that report: "The odors emanating from this basin (the one near the Custom House square is here spoken of) seriously incommode the employees who have to work in the neighborhood; several among them have already been obliged to leave work through sickness, some being now at the hospital, and