

nickels, who do treat the conductor as if he were a man, who don't squelch him if he (with a press of business on his mind) runs past their street. Those good-natured passengers are the oases in the "con's" desert life, and each will get an extra diamond in his crown some day. That is, if the conductor has anything to say about it.

Wending my way toward the legislative halls on Thursday to attend the opening ceremonies and take a look at the "permanent land force," "C" battery, I was thunderstruck on reaching Government street to see the battery riding in the tram cars. What can we expect from the local volunteers when we witness such conduct on the part of "regulars?" What would the public say if an order for a church parade was issued and the B. C. B. of G. A. were to board the tram cars at the corner of Menzies and Superior streets and ride to St. John's or any other church, on the tram line? The cars are a great convenience for the public, and could not very well be dispensed with, now that we have had a short experience; but when they are used for such purposes as they were on Thursday, viz., to convey the guard of honor to the Government buildings, it is simply making a laughing stock of the army—regular or volunteer. Conversing with an old officer of the volunteer force on the subject, he said: "We have always had the greatest difficulty imaginable

to induce men to turn out in inclement weather, owing to the fact that they would be laughed at if they attempted to avoid the mud or rain; but now that we have had an example shown us, we are at liberty to parade on roller skates if we are inclined."

Much blood and treasure would be poured out, if the United States should come to blows with Chili. Many homes would be left destitute, and lifelong sorrow would take up its abode in them. If arbitration cannot be resorted to, why would it not be worth while to settle the dispute in the good old way of trial by champion. Let each nation choose its defender, and let the issue of war settle it. John L. Sullivan has already expressed his "patriotism" and his belief that Chili ought to be "put to sleep." Let the Chilians choose a champion and Mr. Sullivan, actor, poet and patriot, will meet him in the squared circle and do valiant battle for the land of his adoption. Mr. Sullivan is a past master in the gentle, hypnotic art, but he is not invincible. There may be a Chilian bruiser of less brawn but more science. The David-Goliath "go" will be remembered in this connection; but the Philistines always claimed that David took an unfair advantage of their champion by heaving rocks at him. The battle is not always to the strong. It would be pretty satisfactory to the United States even if Mr. Sullivan should get well

threshed by his opponent.

I am told that the dinner given last Monday night by the barristers of that part of Her Majesty's dominions commonly known as British Columbia was just a real sociable affair. While ginger ale, cider and other soft drinks were provided in abundance, it must not be inferred that "anything stronger" was excluded. As illustrating the fact that our legal luminaries are by no means temperance fanatics, I might say that all the bottles containing the soft drinks were returned without as much as a seal broken. The speeches were of a high order of merit, particularly the oratorical effort of one Vancouver barrister, which is said to have surpassed all understanding, or as another speaker put it, "beyond comprehension." These little affairs go a long way towards drawing into closer friendship the members of the legal fraternity, and should be repeated as often as circumstances will permit.



PERE GRINATOR.



"There are Moments when One Wants to be Alone."

"This is One of Them! This is One of Them!"