

appeared really conversant with parliamentary rules. When these one or two attempted to put their knowledge to use, they were promptly suppressed.

"Oh, we won't bother about that," said the speaker, when told that, before proceeding in a certain matter, it would be necessary to move a suspension of the rules, "That's all right; everybody knows we want to vote on this matter: what is the use wasting time voting to suspend the rules?"

With which he proceeded to put the motion. The subjects occupying these twenty-six men, legislating for a territory with enough land to make a dozen empires of Germany, were matters pertaining to hunting game, to building fires on prairies or in forests, to granting franchises for electric street-cars in Edmonton, and to investigating the conduct of the territory's commissioners to the World's Fair at Chicago. The acts of the liliputian Parliament may be vetoed by the Dominion government at Ottawa, the veto being expressed by the lieutenant-governor at Regina; but the veto must be expressed within a year, otherwise the tentative nature of the act ceases, and it becomes final, repealable only by the body that created it. On the day of my visit, the hottest discussion was in regard to the game regulation forbidding non-residents to hunt without a permit from the lieutenant-governor. Some of the members said that if their visitors were not allowed to hunt without a permit from the lieutenant-governor, they could not hunt at all, inasmuch as their stay in the country might be ended, possibly months, by time one could write to

Regina and receive an answer. A year would elapse before the lieutenant-governor could send a permit to persons in the McKenzie river district.

To carry into effect the laws enacted by the little Parliament, there is, in addition to the law-abiding spirit of the people, a body of one thousand men called the mounted police,—stalwart fellows in the usual uniform of an English soldier—flaming red coat, tight trousers, and a hat about the size of a pill-box. These men receive board and clothing, and forty cents a day the first year of their service, with each additional year the per diem is increased five cents. At first thought, one thousand men seem entirely inadequate to preserve peace in a territory two-thirds as large as all Europe; in reality, however, they appear quite competent to perform the task assigned them. The vast area over which they preside contains not more than eighty thousand souls. The mounted police are quick, bold, daring; though few in number, they are constantly on the trains, at the station, on horseback, moving from point to point, seeming almost omnipresent, and so holding in check the lawless characters who drift to the west.

With millions of acres of land to be had almost for the asking, in Manitoba and the Northwest Territory, with good government, with a soil producing twenty to forty bushels of wheat to the acre, it is no wonder the completion of a railroad into this region resulted immediately in a stream of immigration that is swelling into a mighty river, and that is inevitably destined to make of the Northwest one of the world's greatest granaries.



INDIAN FAMILY AT CALGARY.