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The Minister on the G. O. C.

LAST week we gave a synopsis of the manifesto issued by Lord Dundonald concerning the militia of Canada and the government in charge of it. Sir Frederick Borden, the minister of militia and defence, upon whose shoulders rests the responsibility for the efficiency of the force, and the defence of the country in time of need, took the first occasion to reply to his late general officer in the House of Commons last Thursday. Lord Dundonald began his statement with reference to "the difficulty between myself and the government of Canada." Considering that Lord Dundonald was employed as an official of the militia department by the government of Canada, "myself" first and the "government of Canada" afterwards seems to merit the description of it by Sir Frederick Borden as a "highly concentrated exhibition of egotism and self-assertion."

Speaking of the first complaint, that in his efforts Lord Dundonald was constantly hampered by interference which began very soon after his arrival and continued incessantly ever since. Sir Frederick Bor-

den pointed out that this interference was interference by Lord Dundonald's superior and by the government which represented the people of this country and was responsible for the maintenance of law and order. What really happened Sir Frederick said, was that the General was aware of the minister's intention to introduce a Bill abolishing the general officer commanding, following the example of the British government in abolishing the office of commander-in-chief, and Lord Dundonald took alarm and conceived the notion of appealing over the head of his superior, in order, if possible, to prevent the Militia Bill going through the Parliament of Canada. He, therefore, went down to Montreal to ask Col. Smart to write a letter, and to bring together some of his subordinate officers in order to hunt up evidence upon which to found a charge against Mr. Fisher and the government. When he made the speech at the banquet in Montreal the minister declared that Lord Dundonald was not fair or honorable, that he carefully avoided telling the truth, and that he knew that the commanding officer