

The Governor Generalship.

SOME remarks on the Governor-Generalship of Canada apropos of the rumour concerning the Duke of Marlborough appeared in a recent issue of the Toronto Globe, and were subjected to some criticism in the Montreal Star of August 30. It would appear that the Globe stated that possibly the appointment of the husband of an American heiress might serve a useful purpose in teaching Americans something about our system of government, and how 'insignificant' a part the office really plays in the matter. The Star does not think that this is a very proper sentiment, and says in support of this:—"The king allows his ministers to have their way in matters of policy, but his office is not insignificant on that account." The Globe does not say that the office is insignificant. The Star's article in the beginning said that the Globe thought the example would show our American cousins how insignificant a part the governor-general plays in the administering of our system of government. That is a very different thing from saying that the office was insignificant. We take it that the Globe's view was that the office was an important one playing an insignificant part in our system of government.

It would not be amiss if something should happen to teach the Montreal Star a little of our system of government, when it undertakes to say that the king allows his ministers to have their way in matters of policy. The Star ought to know that the king of England was appointed by the House of Commons, and can be removed by the House of Commons, and the only "allowance" that pertains to the king is the allowance for living expenses made to him by that parliament, and instead of the king allowing his ministers to have their way in matters of policy, the ministers repre-

sent the House which allows the king to remain on the throne. It in fact gave him that throne. The king holds office at the will and pleasure of the House of Commons. The trouble is that all the theoretical power of the Crown is perpetuated in the statutes and in all appointments made by the ministers. They do everything in the name of the Crown, and the Crown is credited with doing everything, by and with the advice, and so forth.



Earl Grey

The Star goes on to say that the people of Canada do not want an insignificant governor-general. It is hard to find out what the people of Canada want in the matter. They are never consulted. The office of governor-general in Canada has been in the past regarded by Mr. Cham-