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THE YEOMAN OF THE GUARD

Yeomen

In a recent Issue about the dispute which the Warders of the Tower of London are having with the Ministry of Works, we confused them with the Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard; a quite different body, having no duties at the Tower and no dispute with the Ministry.

The Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard is, in fact, one of the two closest Personal Bodyguards of the Sovereign. It carries out such duties as the "Guy Fawkes" search of the vaults of the Houses of Parliament, and is in attendance at many great State Occassions, such as the Coronation and the Garter Service at Windsor.

We wish to withdraw the mistaken statement made last week that the Yeomen of the Guard would refuse to carry out these duties, and to apologise to the Officers and Yeomen for the distress our statement has caused them. No one, who knew this historic Corps could, of course, believe that it would ever fail in it's loyalty or duty.

It is the Yeomen Warders of the Tower who have raised with the War Office the question of some minor ceremonial duties they perform there, which have no reference to the duties of the Yeomen of the Guard. If in fact the Tower Warders were to be honoured by attending upon the Sovereign as do the Yeomen of the Guard, no one would suggest that any greivance would prevent their doing their duty; and we apologise for the unmerited slur put upon a very loyal body of men, all of whom are distinguished ex-Warrant Officers who would be more than honoured to perform any service for their Sovereign.