

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords ex-Premier Rosebery and the Marquis of Salisbury Speak.

Mr. Goschen, Jr., Pays a Warm Tribute to the Patriotism of Canada.

Sir Vernon Harcourt Discusses the Venezuela, Armenian and Transvaal Affairs and Mr. Balfour Replies.

London, Feb. 11.—There was an unusual amount of interest at the opening of parliament today. Owing to the many important questions that will come before the present session, nearly all the members of both houses placed themselves on record before the party chiefs as having headed the calls for a full assemblage. The usual ceremony of inspection, the ministerial which has prevailed since the days of Guy Fawkes, was carried out yesterday. The yeomen of the guard, clad in quaint attire and bearing old-fashioned lances, escorted a representative of the police, passed through each room in the vast building from the basement to the roof and carefully inspected the various departments.

Both houses assembled at 2 o'clock today. There were many early arrivals anxious to secure good seats. R. Ashurst, conservative, representing Oldham, arrived at the house of commons at 4.40 a. m., and had the honor of being "first on deck." By 9 a large number of seats had been taken. The Irish benches alone were not crowded. Many supporters of the government were obliged to stand, owing to lack of seats. The speaker, the Right Hon. William Court Gully, took his seat at 1.55 p. m. At 2.05 p. m. the black rod summoned the members of the house of commons to attend the house of lords for the reading of the Queen's speech.

The mace bearer preceded the speaker, who in turn was followed by the members of the house, and the procession passed through the members' lobby which separates the legislative halls.

The royal commission, consisting of five members of the house of lords, were in their places when the commons entered. Many ladies were present in their gallery, and there were a number of bishops and a few peers in attendance. The French and German ambassadors and a number of the attaches of their embassies listened to the speech with interest.

The lord chancellor, Lord Halsbury, flanked by two peers of the realm, also members of the commission, motioned to the clerk, who in his usual clear and impressive manner read the Queen's speech. It was as follows: My Lords and Gentlemen, I am glad to receive from other powers assurances of friendly sentiments. An agreement has been concluded between my government and France, the principal object of which is to secure the establishment of the independence of Siam. Commissioners for delimitation of the frontier which separates my Indian empire and the Russian empire have agreed upon a line, which has been accepted by myself and the Emperor of Russia.

The government of the United States of America have expressed a wish to co-operate in the termination of the differences which have existed for many years between my government and the republic of Venezuela upon the question of the boundary between the country and the colony of British Guiana. I have expressed my sympathy with the desire to come to an equitable arrangement and trusting that further negotiations will lead to a satisfactory settlement.

The Sultan of Turkey has sanctioned the principal reforms in the government of the Armenian provinces, and for which, with the Emperor of Russia and President of the French republic, I have felt it to be my duty to press. I deeply regret the fanatical outbreak on the part of a section of the Turkish population which has resulted in a series of massacres which have caused the deepest indignation in this country.

The sudden incursion into the South African republic by an armed force from the territory under the control of the British South Africa company resulted in a deplorable collision with the burgher forces. My ministers, at the earliest possible moment, intervened to prohibit through the governor this hostile action and to warn all my subjects in South Africa against taking part in it. It is a limitation of other states claim to exercise everywhere. President Monroe limited it to the American continent, and the United States, following the example of Washington, have declared their disinclination and determination not to interfere in the controversies of the American continent to be of special interest to themselves and they will judge when and how they are called upon to interfere. That feeling is not disputed in the Queen's speech, and I rejoice to see that it states a wish to co-operate with the government of the United States, and the only practical question remaining is whether the doctrine has been invaded in the case of Venezuela. The United States have not made any announcement upon this question, but have appointed a commission to form their judgments upon the subject. It has been stated that the appointment of this commission was an offense to the people and government of Great Britain. Happily the government does not take that view. The commission is to inform the government of the United States with which our government desires to co-operate. How can the United States of America co-operate with us unless they have the information which will enable them to co-operate in settling the boundary? I regret the delay in the publication of the English case. I should thought that before Secretary Olney was answered last by before the United States and the world at large. We do not desire to claim any territory to which we are not clearly entitled, and the question is what is the business of the diplomats to come to a reasonable settlement in such a matter. Diplomacy has had this matter in hand for

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Measures which were taken in 1885 to secure effective control of Chitral have been successful. I have directed estimates for the service for the year to be laid before you. They have been prepared by the War Office, and they show that the exigencies of the time require an increased expenditure.

My Lords and Gentlemen: The extension and improvement of the national defenses of the empire is the most important subject to which your efforts can be directed, and will doubtless occupy your most earnest attention.

I regret to say that the condition of agriculture is disastrous beyond recent experience. Measures will be laid before you with the object of mitigating the distress of the classes engaged in that industry.

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Mr. Goschen made a glowing reference to the outbreak of patriotic feeling in Canada, and in the British colonies during the recent political crisis. Sir William Harcourt, who had just returned from the East, said he was rejoiced at the paragraph in the Queen's speech with regard to Venezuela, as he held out the hope that the question could be settled in an early date. He added that no words that could impede such a settlement would fall from him. This remark was greeted with loud cheers which disposed of the report that the liberal leaders had determined to make an attack upon the government's policy in regard to Venezuela, which course necessarily would have led an exchange of warm remarks between the two sides.

Continuing, Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt said that misunderstandings, both in England and in the United States existed, and had caused ruffled feelings on both sides. The idea that America and Great Britain disputed the question of Monroism was nothing more or less than a mistake. He asserted, was not a principle of international law, but one of national policy to which the Americans have traditionally and passionately attached and it was the same doctrine by virtue of which Great Britain had interfered in various states when her interests were affected.

Sir Wm. Harcourt said: "I am an entire agreement with Lord Salisbury when he says the United States have a perfect right to interpose in any controversy by which their own interests are affected, and are entitled to judge whether their interests are affected and in what measure they shall be sustained. That is a general doctrine upon which all states act. Upon this is founded the balance of power and on that ground Great Britain interposed in Belgium, Greece, Turkey and many other places. The Monroe doctrine is not an extension of this principle. It is a limitation of what other states claim to exercise everywhere. President Monroe limited it to the American continent, and the United States, following the example of Washington, have declared their disinclination and determination not to interfere in the controversies of the American continent to be of special interest to themselves and they will judge when and how they are called upon to interfere. That feeling is not disputed in the Queen's speech, and I rejoice to see that it states a wish to co-operate with the government of the United States, and the only practical question remaining is whether the doctrine has been invaded in the case of Venezuela. The United States have not made any announcement upon this question, but have appointed a commission to form their judgments upon the subject. It has been stated that the appointment of this commission was an offense to the people and government of Great Britain. Happily the government does not take that view. The commission is to inform the government of the United States with which our government desires to co-operate. How can the United States of America co-operate with us unless they have the information which will enable them to co-operate in settling the boundary? I regret the delay in the publication of the English case. I should thought that before Secretary Olney was answered last by before the United States and the world at large. We do not desire to claim any territory to which we are not clearly entitled, and the question is what is the business of the diplomats to come to a reasonable settlement in such a matter. Diplomacy has had this matter in hand for

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NOTES.

Amusement has been at the efforts made by the proprietors of the Dominion to claim the credit for being the first to publish the United States Gullies from the first communication on came to Messrs. Hazen from Mr. Campbell, manager of the Dominion.

Mr. Campbell immediately saw the Dominion and pressed the satisfactory conclusion.

statement that two weeks of the order to publish is altogether astray, such not being necessary, however, to the persistency Hazen and Chesley, personally giving the Dominion cattle before the formal order.

Mr. Campbell secured the Dominion. The Dominion & Co. knew of the Dominion's lobby which separates the legislative halls.

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The government of the United States of America have expressed a wish to co-operate in the termination of the differences which have existed for many years between my government and the republic of Venezuela upon the question of the boundary between the country and the colony of British Guiana. I have expressed my sympathy with the desire to come to an equitable arrangement and trusting that further negotiations will lead to a satisfactory settlement.

The Sultan of Turkey has sanctioned the principal reforms in the government of the Armenian provinces, and for which, with the Emperor of Russia and President of the French republic, I have felt it to be my duty to press. I deeply regret the fanatical outbreak on the part of a section of the Turkish population which has resulted in a series of massacres which have caused the deepest indignation in this country.

The sudden incursion into the South African republic by an armed force from the territory under the control of the British South Africa company resulted in a deplorable collision with the burgher forces. My ministers, at the earliest possible moment, intervened to prohibit through the governor this hostile action and to warn all my subjects in South Africa against taking part in it. It is a limitation of other states claim to exercise everywhere. President Monroe limited it to the American continent, and the United States, following the example of Washington, have declared their disinclination and determination not to interfere in the controversies of the American continent to be of special interest to themselves and they will judge when and how they are called upon to interfere. That feeling is not disputed in the Queen's speech, and I rejoice to see that it states a wish to co-operate with the government of the United States, and the only practical question remaining is whether the doctrine has been invaded in the case of Venezuela. The United States have not made any announcement upon this question, but have appointed a commission to form their judgments upon the subject. It has been stated that the appointment of this commission was an offense to the people and government of Great Britain. Happily the government does not take that view. The commission is to inform the government of the United States with which our government desires to co-operate. How can the United States of America co-operate with us unless they have the information which will enable them to co-operate in settling the boundary? I regret the delay in the publication of the English case. I should thought that before Secretary Olney was answered last by before the United States and the world at large. We do not desire to claim any territory to which we are not clearly entitled, and the question is what is the business of the diplomats to come to a reasonable settlement in such a matter. Diplomacy has had this matter in hand for

half a century and a mighty bad hand it has made of it, in my opinion. It has not made it a question of the character of the government, but a question of the character of the people and the character of the nation. It has not made it a question of the character of the government, but a question of the character of the people and the character of the nation.

Measures which were taken in 1885 to secure effective control of Chitral have been successful. I have directed estimates for the service for the year to be laid before you. They have been prepared by the War Office, and they show that the exigencies of the time require an increased expenditure.

My Lords and Gentlemen: The extension and improvement of the national defenses of the empire is the most important subject to which your efforts can be directed, and will doubtless occupy your most earnest attention.

I regret to say that the condition of agriculture is disastrous beyond recent experience. Measures will be laid before you with the object of mitigating the distress of the classes engaged in that industry.

Measures will also be submitted to you for the creation of voluntary schools, for the regulation of alien immigration, and for the construction of light railways for the rural districts.

You will be asked also to consider the employers limited liability bill, which I have the honor to announce will be introduced in the course of the session.

I commend these weighty matters to your experienced judgment and pray that you may be guided by the guidance and favor of Almighty God.

The ceremony was finished at 2.35 p. m. The house of commons resumed business at 4 o'clock and was soon crowded.

The secretary of state for the colonies, Joseph Chamberlain, was warmly cheered as he took his seat. Sir William Harcourt, the liberal leader, was loudly cheered by the members of the opposition.

After the new members of parliament had been sworn in, the minister announced the various bills to be introduced in accordance with the announcement contained in the Queen's speech.

The notice of the first lord of the admiralty, Geo. J. Goschen, of the proposed increase in the strength of the navy was observed.

The speaker then read the Queen's speech, after which Geo. J. Goschen, division of Sussex, moved the address in reply to the Queen's speech. Mr. Goschen, Jr., said he trusted that the negotiations regarding the Venezuela question would result not only in a satisfactory settlement, but in a complete reconciliation and firm friendship between Great Britain and her kindred across the Atlantic.

NOTES.

Amusement has been at the efforts made by the proprietors of the Dominion to claim the credit for being the first to publish the United States Gullies from the first communication on came to Messrs. Hazen from Mr. Campbell, manager of the Dominion.

Mr. Campbell immediately saw the Dominion and pressed the satisfactory conclusion.