

Opening of Parliament.

Lord Minto, the Governor General Reads the Speech from the Throne.

The Rearrangement of Electoral Districts--Prosperity of the Dominion.

Ottawa, March 12.—Lord Minto opened parliament at 3 o'clock to-day. There was a large attendance, although the weather was unpropitious.

Honorable gentlemen of the Senate, and gentlemen of the House of Commons: In meeting you for the first time since entering on my duties as representative of Her Majesty in this Dominion, it affords me great pleasure to be able to congratulate you on the large degree of prosperity which this people of Canada at present enjoy.

The Settlement of Certain Questions in dispute between Canada and the latter country were, I grieve to say, greatly delayed by the illness and subsequent death of two of the most eminent members of the commission appointed for that purpose.

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Domestic Letter Rate. From three to two cents, and although such a reduction involves a temporary loss of revenue, it is nevertheless confidently expected that the cheapened rate will prove of great benefit to the general intercourse of correspondence that within a reasonable time the revenue of the post office department will be restored to its former figure.

A Line of Telegraph. For the purpose of maintaining speedy communication with the people of those distant territories. A measure will be submitted to you for the better arrangement of the electoral districts in compliance with the act passed last session a plebiscite was held on the question of prohibition. The official figures of the vote will be placed before you.

Proceedings in the Commons. In the House of Commons this afternoon the speaker said that he had received the resignation of Mr. J. F. Giltie, Bonaventure, but it was irregular, and therefore he would not issue his warrant until he had consulted the House.

Messrs. Holmes, Marineau, Johnston, Bell, Mariel, Liberals, and McCarthy, Independent, were introduced in the House. Messrs. Stubbs and Douglas in the House. Mr. McCarthy.

Mr. G. R. Maxwell, M.P., has lost no time in bringing Deadman's Island matter to the attention of the House. He has given notice of motion to-day calling for all correspondence in relation to the sale of the island by Mr. Lindgate from the government.

partment, which will be distributed tomorrow, states that increased competition in almost all directions, caused by the influx of labor, more especially of Chinese and Japanese, makes it more difficult than ever for the host Indians to make a living.

BRITAIN AND THE STATES. Ambassador Choate on the Relations Between the Two Nations.

London, March 12.—There was a large and distinguished gathering at the Hotel Metropole this evening when Mr. J. H. Choate, United States ambassador, was entertained to a banquet by the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom.

Lord Charles Beresford, who replied to the toast to the navy, expressed the hope that the time would very shortly come when there would be such an understanding between the two countries that, if anything occurred disagreeable to them or affecting their honor and safety, the two fleets would be together.

The toast "Our Guests" was proposed by Vice-President Harper, who coupled the name of Mr. Choate and Baron Russell of Killowen.

The "Cheering" was loud and prolonged when Mr. Choate rose to reply. His general instructions from his government were, he said, not to discuss politics, or only on extraordinary occasions, and issued a proclamation upholding the provisional government and denying that there has been any interference by the Malletta party.

Guerrilla Tactics. The Filipinos Keep the United States Troops Hard at Work. Americans Advance and Capture Another Fortified Village.

Manila, March 10, 1:30 p.m.—The insurgents at the outpost and in the trenches beyond Calocan fired several volleys last night upon the Montana and Kansas volunteers, and a report of four regulars, desiring it is supposed, to discover if the American line had been thinned by the movement of General Wheaton's command.

NINE NEGROES SHOT. They Were Accused of Arson and Attacked by a Mob, Who Killed Four of Them.

Atlanta, Ga., March 10.—A special from Palmetto, Ga., says: Nine negroes, charged with arson, were shot down by a mob at 2 o'clock this morning. No further particulars are known yet.

Palmetto, Ga., March 10.—Citizens are patrolling the main streets of the town and dispersing occasional groups of muttering negroes, who seem determined to get some sort of revenge for the slaughter of four of their race. The scene this afternoon at Johnson's warehouse, where nine negroes were confined and shot, is revolting and miserable.

Germany Can't Stay Out.

Wilhelm's Agent in Samoa Positively Refuses to Recognize King Malietoa.

British and American Consuls Strong Action If Peace Is Disturbed.

Apia, Samoa, via Auckland, N.Z., March 10.—Owing to the threats by the Mataafa people that they would burn the Malietoa village in the island of Savaii unless the taxes levied upon them were paid and a contingent of soldiers for the support of Mataafa were sent, the British consul visited Savaii on the British cruiser Porpoise and threatened to shell the villages of Mataafa's followers if peace were disturbed.

The German consul refused to join the British and American representatives, and issued a proclamation upholding the provisional government and denying that there has been any interference by the Malletta party.

STILL FIGHTING. Dr. Manchester's Engagements Three Times Yesterday's. Killed.

Manila, March 14.—General Wheaton's column advanced to-day beyond Pasig, sweeping everything before them. The enemy made a running fight and suffered severely.

NEW MEDICAL ASSISTANT. Dr. Manchester, of Montreal, Appointed to the Position.

Dr. Manchester, of Montreal, appointed to the position of assistant medical officer at the New Westminster Insane Asylum is announced in another column; he had a training which fits him admirably for the position.

LAW INTELLIGENCE. Before the Hon. Mr. Martin, deputy judge in admiralty, this morning, the suit of Adams, Nicholson was disposed of. An order was made dividing the \$5,500 now in the hands of the C. P. N. Co. as follows: To Nicholson, \$2,750; to Adams, \$1,800; to Captain Bjere, \$471.87 (this goes to the Nicholson who purchased the captain's share); to E. B. Marvin, \$49.57, and to R. P. Ribbet & Co., \$740.00.

THE CHICAGO MURDER. Chicago, March 10.—August Becker, the sausage maker, who confessed yesterday to having killed his wife and burned her body, today told police officers to the place in the back yard where he had buried the charred remains.

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protection. Reports from Samar and Leyte indicate the desire of the inhabitants for United States troops. These islands will be occupied. The insurgents' control is confined to Luzon. The occupation of the Pasig river line with the control of Laguna Beach secures the country occupied by Tagalos nearly in two equal parts.

BISMARCK'S RESTING PLACE. Friedrichshafen, March 10.—The Emperor Wilhelm arrived here at 11:25 this morning for the interment of Prince and Princess Bismarck in the new mausoleum.

SENSATIONAL STORY. A Former Russian Ambassador Is Accused of Having Sold Secrets to German Government.

London, March 10.—The Evening News to-day publishes a sensational Drayton story. It declares that a former Russian ambassador to Paris, Count von Mohrenheim, is the real culprit who sold secrets to the German government.

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Salvage for the Tees.

Capt. Gorse Finds the Dirigo Helpless and Takes Charge of Her.

Towed Her to Juneau--Proceedings To Be Instituted in the Court.

As told briefly in these columns yesterday the staunch little iron packet Tees, Capt. Gorse, has made a big salvage haul. The stranded Alaskan liner Dirigo, had been released but an hour or more from the ragged reefs of Midway Island, when the C.P.N. boat happened along just in time to find her in need of assistance and in just the necessary position to be claimed as a salvage prize.

It was on Saturday afternoon last that the Tees hove to, near the scene of the wreck, and by careful navigation amongst the archipelago of reefs in that vicinity managed to get in close to the disabled vessel. She had been floated from the natural marine way to which she drifted at midnight a week ago today, after being temporarily patched up with canvas and rough boarding aid was swinging to her anchor in a little area of open water, just off the reef, with barely a ship's length to spare.

Her engines were utterly useless—saving the small donkey engine on which they managed to get enough steam for the pumps. The mass of machinery which has driven the liner for thousands of miles on her way to and from Alaska had been lifted right off its foundations, and raised about a foot, when she struck and cranked shafts, piston rods and levers were jammed and broken in every conceivable way. The hull, too, was strained considerably.

The 250 tons of cargo she had in her having twisted her body out of shape. That she lay, straining at the haws, with the Tees, kept her from again drifting to possible destruction, she was as helpless as a kitten in a snowdrift, and when the Tees happened along her officers were readily accepted.

The Tees made the journey from Midway Island without misadventure, crawling cautiously out from under the snow and up the reef, and then heading straight for Juneau, 36 miles away, which port was reached about ten o'clock on Saturday night. It was about 2 o'clock in the afternoon when she picked up the Dirigo.

Then the Tees came down to Victoria to report her. F. W. Vincent, of the C. P. N. Co., said last night that the company will institute proceedings for salvage on the American courts against the Dirigo immediately she gets down. Orders were received by the Tees and telegraphed to Seattle asking that tug be sent north at once to bring her down. Temporary repairs will be made to her hull at the Alaskan port, and then she will be brought down "for alterations and repairs."

Capt. Nicholas, the pilot of the Dirigo, is confined to his bed. The Tees did not call at Wrangel, and is therefore unable to give any news of Capt. Roberts's condition.

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the local underwriters are without authority to make a change, and many of them say there will be none, others say they would not be surprised to get notice from their principals at any time. It is taken for granted in Seattle that this will be the restoration of the Sound as a hum of excitement in the Alaska offices all day yesterday.

It is not believed that the raise, if there is one, will be more than two or three per cent, but this is considerable when added to the present rate of \$1.20. As but little has been heard of the accident, no word is probable from the insurance companies until more is known of the disaster and its cause.

While the fact that the Dirigo went on the rocks does not alter the danger of Alaskan navigation, and theoretically there is no more ground for a raise than there is in life insurance when some one dies, the case is different in practice. The ship owners are alarmed and will pay a few cents more without question.

A leading underwriter, spoken to on the subject, said every accident had a direct effect on insurance, and it was not likely this would be an exception. Alaska risks have always been considered in the light of gambling by the underwriters and some of the most conservative will not handle them on any terms.

During the Klondike rush last spring and fall insurance went up to fabulous heights. It is said the old George E. Starr, one of the first steamers on Puget Sound, was insured by the Siskiwit run, but when it was discovered \$2,500 would be asked to insure her for one trip, the idea was abandoned.

Many of the steamers which have been slightly injured and repaired, have secured nearly their value from the insurers. The Corona, the Willapa and the Cottage City all have been on the list. Many of the smaller steamers have been repaired. All these things are reasured in the minds of the underwriters, and they are not slow to seize an opportunity to put themselves as near the safe side as possible.

A prominent insurance man of this city says he has lost heavily on his Alaska risks during the last year and would be glad if he could escape every one of his holds. Seattle underwriters are quoted as saying they have lost ten dollars to every one they have made by Alaskan business.

The C. P. N. Co. have been very fortunate, however. They have not had any misfortune to speak of since the Klondike rush began and long before that, and have made more salvage pick-ups than any company operating in this vicinity. About two years ago they bought the Willapa for a trifling sum, from the same Captain George Roberts, who was on the Dirigo, when the latter was wrecked, when the Willapa was in their service, was wrecked in Northern British Columbia.

Capt. Irving and his wreckers patched her and floated her, and with a couple of thousand dollars worth of repairs she was like a new vessel, and without doubt the cheapest one in the C. P. N. fleet.

Another instance of the luck there must be such a thing of the C. P. N. Co. was that of the Commonwealth, a big iron steamer of about 4,000 tons, was found abandoned up the west coast, having lost her propeller while on the rocks, had been unable to see her or her distress signals.

HERSCHELL'S SUCCESSOR.

London, March 10.—The Pall Mall Gazette says it understands that Lord chief justice of England, Baron Russell, of Killowen, has been selected to succeed the late Baron Herschell on the High Court commission.