

THE KING AND THE QUEEN

Both Present at the Opening of Parliament. King Edward Not a Mere Figurehead. Speech From the Throne Was Unusually Expressive.

London, Feb. 17.—King Edward, accompanied by Queen Alexandra and surrounded by his court and officers of state, opened parliament this afternoon.

All the great officers of state in various uniforms were assembled at the royal entrance to the house of peers to receive the king.

The king's speech was as follows: "Lords, Gentlemen: My relations with all foreign powers are friendly. The blockade of the Venezuelan ports has led to negotiations for adjustment of the settlement arrived at which has justified the blockading powers in bringing the hostile operations to an immediate close."

"Negotiations have taken place for the adjustment of questions which have arisen with regard to the boundary of my possessions in North America, and that of the Territory of Alaska. A treaty providing for a reference of these questions in arbitration has been signed and ratified."

The speech next refers to the Balkan question, saying: "The condition of the European provinces of Turkey gives cause for serious anxiety. I have used my best efforts to impress on the sultan and his ministers the urgent need of practical and well considered measures of reform."

The king next mentioned the Somaliland expedition, and then turned to South Africa, on which subject he said: "The progress of affairs in South Africa is satisfactory. The visit of the colonial secretary has already been productive of the happiest results."

The speech concluded with an intimation that the budget estimates of expenditure would inevitably be large, and promising the introduction of bills dealing with the Irish land question, London education, sugar bounties, London docks. With regard to the Irish measure, he said: "It will, I trust, complete the series of measures which have already done so much to substitute a single ownership for the costly and unsatisfactory conditions still attaching to the tenure of agricultural land over a large portion of Ireland."

The king laid special emphasis on the words "signed and ratified" referring to the Alaskan boundary, showing his evident satisfaction of the fact that he was able to make such an announcement.

On the reassembling of the house of lords, the Duke of Roxburgh (Unionist), moved to address in reply to the king's speech, and Earl Leitchamont seconded the motion. Earl Spencer, Liberal leader in the house of lords, opened the debate for the opposition. He rejoiced exceedingly that the dispute which, although arising from just grounds, was petty and might have imperiled Great Britain's good relations with the United States, was now passing away. He congratulated the government on the agreement to refer the Alaskan boundary dispute to a commission and then proceeded to deal in detail with the Macedonian question.

The Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of the Council, replied on behalf of the government. Great Britain accepted the Monroe doctrine unreservedly, he said, but to have abstained from enforcing the claims which she believed just and essential to her honor, would be to make the Monroe doctrine an object of dislike to every civilized power. He expressed the hope that the land bill may approach a final settlement of the Irish question. A motion providing for an address in reply to the king's speech was then agreed to and the house adjourned.

When the house of commons assembled for the transaction of business this afternoon, Speaker Gully read the king's speech to a somewhat slim gathering. Mr. Gratton, Conservative, moved an address in reply to the speech, and in so doing expressed satisfaction at the termination of the Venezuelan blockade, and at the fact that throughout the difficult affair, cordial relations had been maintained with the United States.

The Liberal leader, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, said he desired information on the subjects of the Venezuelan and Macedonian troubles, and on the great question of the settlement of affairs in South Africa. He commented on the fact that Germany was not mentioned in the king's speech in connection with the Venezuelan question. He opposed co-operation with Germany in a matter like the Venezuelan matter. Germany was strong, but rough. Germany also was not favorable to the Monroe doctrine. If there had ever been a case of arbitration, the Venezuelan affair was one, and if this course had been adopted in the first place, a great precedent would have been established towards the peaceful settlement of international questions.

Referring to South Africa, Sir Henry said they might have differed in the past over war, but now that the war was over, he urged that they all work for the common purpose of laying the foundations for a new life in that

part of the world. He heartily concurred in the sentiments and desires expressed by Colonial Secretary Chamberlain for the fusion of the two white races of South Africa, but wanted to know if Mr. Chamberlain's acts were subject to the approval of his colleagues. If the bargain were made, who was to speak with authority for the nation? In conclusion, Sir Henry, who spoke for an hour and a quarter, criticised the growth of national expenditures.

Premier Balfour, in reply, said Mr. Chamberlain had consulted his colleagues. He added: "We entirely endorse and make ourselves responsible for the general policy he has declared in South Africa."

In conclusion he defended the action of the British government towards Venezuela. Broadly speaking, he added, the negotiations were carried out with the greatest regard, not only for the feelings of the American people and government, but for the feelings of Venezuela. The debate then suspended.

SKATING RECORDS

Maurice Wood Wipes Out Old Figures

Relegates the Records for Three Distances to Well Merited Oblivion.

Three new speed skating records were established at Verona Lake, Montclair, N.J., and the old marks which occupied the record books for years were relegated to a well-merited oblivion. The distances for which the new figures were set up were of the springing class—75, 100 and 220 yards—but this rendered the feats as interesting as if they were for one, five and ten miles. The contests were given under the auspices of the Verona Lake Skating Club and were substituted for a match arranged between Maurice Wood, the one and three miles national champion, and Peter Sinnrud, the half and ten mile champion, at a half mile and mile. Sinnrud had an opinion that he could defeat Wood at sprinting and readily agreed to the proposal of the short races.

The contests took place on a straight strip of ice measured taut on the lake. The ice was in splendid condition, fast and clean, the only hindrance to real speedy work being a couple of rough spots but not more than a couple of strokes in length. A fairly strong breeze blew across the path of the racers and could not have helped them very much although it was hardly likely that the same times would be recorded if the skaters tried the opposite direction. When some of those present remarked that the breeze helped the men to fast time a reporter suspended a handkerchief in the air and there was a current strong enough to sway it aside, but whether this blowing on the side of the skaters would help them was a question almost impossible to determine.

Maurice Wood of the Verona Lake S. C. was the hero of the hour and it was he who succeeded in annexing the three records. The first event was the 75-yard and after several false breaks the three, Wood, Sinnrud and C. Waller broke even and struck out for the tape. At about half way Sinnrud was in front, but Wood sprinted by the Swede and won by inches in 8 1-5 seconds, supplanting the old record of 8 3-5 seconds made by S. D. See on Van Cortlandt Lake, Dec. 30, 1883.

In the 100-yard race the same trio lined up and Wood won by two feet in 9 4-5 seconds, but as the watch of one of the official timers went wrong the race was started over, and in the second attempt 9 3-5 seconds was returned for Wood, who won by four feet. The old record was 8 4-5 seconds by John S. Johnson, at Minneapolis, Minn., March 1, 1883.

Wood came out again victorious in the 220-yard event, and again there was a mishap to one of the timers, the other two watching Wood at 18 1-5 seconds. On the second attempt all three watches agreed on 19 seconds, thereby wiping out the old record of 20 1-5 seconds, held jointly by J. Nilsson, at Montreal, Feb. 1, 1896, and by W. Caldwell, at Montreal, Feb. 6, 1897.

Mr. Kallow—Er—beg pardon, Miss Snappe, but can't I smoke? Miss Snappe—I'm sure I don't know but if you've never tried before, please don't begin here.—Philadelphia Press.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

SKAGWAY CUSTOMS

Suggested That the Office There be Abolished.

The order in council which is reported to have been made by the Ottawa government, forbidding the entry into Canada of Canadian goods carried in United States bottoms is in direct line with the laws of the United States which preclude the carriage of bonded domestic goods in foreign bottoms. It will be inconsistent for merchants and carriers of the United States to take umbrage at this harsh order. On the score that governments should protect commerce by the taking of such advantages, the Ottawa government officials have behaved patriotically. It is a matter of plain business in which there can be no sentiment involved. The people of this nation should on the contrary applaud the manner in which the Canadian government protects the commercial interests of its people. But the government of the United States should profit by the lessons these shrewd Bonadians teach and proceed likewise to do hard business.

The useless expense of maintaining a customs house at Skagway should be saved. Since the taking off of duty on coal the Skagway office will not take in enough customs money to pay for the office stationery, and before the passage of the law free listing coal the office could not be made to reach over 80 per cent. of the cost of maintaining it. Customs offices are maintained for diplomatic courtesy. The treasury department is throwing away over \$10,000 of the public money annually in maintaining a customs house at this point and it should be abolished until some of the parties interested in its maintenance are able to demonstrate a need by which it can be made to produce revenue.

Congress should also immediately enact a law whereby United States goods re-entering the country from Canada should be deemed Canadian goods and thus throw the trade of the American Yukon back into American hands.—Skagway Alaskan.

EGGS AND BUTTER

Two Consignments on the Way From Whitehorse.

Coleman, of Coleman & Carroll, is to be in today with 200 cases of fresh eggs.

Sawyer & Hayward are reported as having left Whitehorse Monday night with 300 cases of eggs.

Harry C. Ingram was supposed to be bringing in eggs, but he got in Monday with two and a half tons of butter and bacon. He made the fastest trip on record for a freighter from Whitehorse, having hauled this heavy load with one four horse team in ten and a half days.

HOGAN AND HIS GOLD

Making Lavish Gifts to Old Friends

Nome Millionaire Michael Hogan Creating Sensation in Southern California.

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 19.—A short, middle aged man, with a stubby beard and curly red hair, powerful arms and horny hands, has lately been attracting more attention at the fashionable winter resorts in southern California than all the millionaires from New York and Chicago put together, because of his lavish expenditures of money for trifles and his princely Christmas gifts.

He gave a dinner to a barnstorming comic opera company that he happened to meet on the cars in the San Joaquin Valley the other night that cost him over \$500. To a negro waiter who pleased him he gave a horse and a fine carriage. Gifts of diamond pins, jeweled cuff buttons, elaborate rings and costly Swiss watches have been made by him almost every day for several weeks to railroad conductors, brakemen, Pullman porters, stablemen, barkeepers, waiters and newboys.

He bought a beautiful fourteen-thousand-dollar home for his brother, who works in the gas house at Oakland, and he sent \$10,000 to each of several cousins in Kansas City. He met an old friend, a garbage wagon driver on the streets of Los Angeles, early this month, and before the two parted he had arranged to treat the garbage wagon man by paying his expenses on a pleasure trip back to Ireland with his wife. He went over to Sonora, Mex., one day, and before he got back he had pledged himself to give \$15,000 for a Roman Catholic school among the Yaqui Indians.

He is Michael Hogan, a signal instance of luck in the gold fields at Nome, Alaska. Several mining men from Nome say that he has cash and securities in California worth \$1,200,000, and that he has placer claims on Anvil and other creeks at Nome worth fully \$400,000 and yielding \$60,000 every summer.

Michael Hogan was Mike Hogan when he was in southern California a few years ago. Then he was a day laborer about the Westlake oil wells. His pay was \$40 a month, and his home was a shanty among the oil derricks in the western part of Los Angeles. Five years ago his sole possessions

were a pair of strong arms, dogged persistence and \$280 in money saved by pinching economy. He was 42 then. At the age of 44 he was a millionaire.

He was a hostler in a livery stable at Troy, N.Y., along about 1883. He worked on a grain boat on the Erie canal for a long time. He has been a hobnobber: He shovelled malt in the hot stoves of a Buffalo malt house for months, and he beat his way across the continent to California in 1891.

He heard that there was money in Arctic whaling, and he signed and sailed as an apprentice on a whaler out of San Pedro, Cal., in February, 1898. The ship went as far north as Cape Prince of Wales, and started homeward in September of the same year.

Hogan had decided to try his luck at gold hunting in the Klondike, and with his season's pay in his pocket, was left at the port of St. Michael, at the mouth of the Yukon river. He was about to attempt an overland trip over snow and ice to Dawson City, some eight hundred miles away, when the news of wonderfully rich gold finds in the creek benches at Cape Nome reached St. Michael.

Hogan joined in the stampede of excited gold seekers, missionaries, fishermen and whalers from St. Michael who toiled across the snow and ice of Kotzebue Sound to Cape Nome. Every one in the party suffered severely, and several men lost their lives amid the snowbanks. For two months Hogan lay hovering between life and death with pneumonia in a tent, while the mercury ranged from 22 to 35 below zero.

When he got well, he found that apparently the best gold claims had already been entered upon. He and a Scotch whaler started out to seek evidences of gold on some of the creeks neglected by the miners.

It seemed a hopeless effort. Every veteran gold miner in the Nome camp ridiculed their efforts and Hogan on several occasions became so discouraged that he and his companion packed their camp utensils and made ready to quit prospecting. Then something would occur that would give them new hope.

In July, 1899, Hogan's partner deserted him and went away angry with himself for having sought gold where veteran miners said it did not exist. Hogan resolved to prospect a few weeks longer. He moved his tent several miles up Snow creek, and tested the sand at a sharp bend in the creek.

"The first pan yielded about \$3 in gold," says he in telling about it. "The subsequent pannings assured me that I had it all my way. I panned out over \$150 in gold in two days and a half. There I was all alone and master of a placer territory where no one had suspected there was yellow metal in decent quantity."

From that time on until the sluicing season closed, early in October, Hogan worked almost without stop-

ping for sleep or meals. When things froze up in the Nome district that fall he had got out some \$17,000 in gold and he had scarcely scratched his claim in the creek sand and gravel.

When the mining season of 1900 opened he had enormous sluices in readiness at his claim for wholesale placer mining operations. He hired five men at \$16 a day for the season and by the close of the summer he had washed out over \$1,400,000 of gold. Besides, he bought another claim on Anvil creek for \$35,000 and stumbled upon a stratum of uncommonly rich gold-bearing gravel that yielded him \$60,000 more.

The next year Hogan was owner of four placer claims in the Nome district and had bought and sold several other claims during the mining excitement at Nome in the winter of 1899-1900. For one claim he paid \$3,000 and he sold it for \$30,000 three months later.

"I was amazed at my own luck and I was almost crazy with the excitement of my fast increasing fortune," says Mr. Hogan. "It seemed as if I could not make a blunder as an investor. I could have made even more money if I had not really grown tired of so much business and nervous because of loss of sleep, while my tide of money was rising."

All of the Hogan gold was sent to the San Francisco mint, and payments therefor were deposited in a San Francisco bank to Hogan's credit.

"I just made up my mind, last summer, that I'd got about enough money to last me, and that I'd go down to the States for the winter," he said. "I'll go back to Nome next May, but I won't live there through any more winter seasons. "The climate is too hard, and every winter shortens a man's life. It causes nervous diseases, and besides

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