

KING EDWARD

Opens British Parliament in Person With Imposing Ceremony.

The Speech from the Throne - The Duke of Cornwall Will Visit Canada.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The first parliament of the reign of King Edward VII was opened this afternoon by the King in person.

Not since the wedding of the then Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra has the gorgeous state coach used today been seen in the streets of the capital.

The route of the royal party, which lay through the Mall, the Horse Guards parade, Whitehall and Parliament street, was guarded by five thousand soldiers.

Five carriages of state containing uniformed officials and ladies of the household, each drawn by six horses with positions and outriders, led the procession.

St. James Park was densely packed. The long steps of the Carlton House terrace were a solid mass of people.

The members of the royal family drove out in plain two horse coaches, with two footmen in scarlet cloaks on the box, half an hour before the procession formed.

The heroes of the crowd were the members of Strathcona's Horse (Canadian Volunteers), just returned from South Africa.

The procession speedily traversed the short route to an accompaniment of roars and shouts, and reached the royal entrance to the palace of Westminster beneath the Victoria Tower at the appointed time.

The great officers of state and the others who were to take part in the ceremony had assembled in order to receive their Majesties. Upon the King and the Queen alighting from the state carriage the procession was quickly formed and proceeded to the robing room in the following order:

Parulvants, heralds, the King's equerries, gentlemen ushers, grooms in waiting, and officers of the household, flanked by the sergeants at arms, the lord privy seal, the lord, high chancellor, Black rod, garter, king of chancery, the sword of state, carried by the Marquis of Londonderry; the King and Queen, and Princess Victoria, respectively attended by the master of the horse, the lord steward, and the lords in waiting.

walting, officers and gentlemen-at-arms, the yeomen of the guard.

The other royal personages—the Duchess of Cornwall and York, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Duchess of Fife, the Duchess of Argyll, Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Henry of Battenberg, Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark and the Duke of Cambridge and their attendants had previously assembled in the house of peers to await their Majesties.

The King and the robed procession advanced to the house of lords in the order detailed. As soon as His Majesty was enthroned the lord great chamberlain received the royal command to summon the members of the house of commons to hear the speech from the throne.

Black Rod, (General Sir Michael Biddulph) reached the house of commons at 2.30 p. m., and the members, headed by the speaker (William Court Gully) proceeded to the house of lords.

The King's speech was as follows: "My Lords and Gentlemen:—I address you for the first time at a moment of national sorrow, when the whole country is mourning the irreparable loss we have so recently sustained, and which has fallen with peculiar severity on myself. My beloved mother, during her long and glorious reign, has set an example before the world of what a monarch should be. It is my earnest desire to walk in her footsteps.

"Amid this public and private grief it is satisfactory to me to be able to assure you that my relations with the other powers continue friendly. The war in South Africa is not yet entirely terminated, but the capitals of the enemy and his principal lines of communication are in my possession, and measures have been taken which will, I trust, enable my troops to deal effectually with the forces by which they are still opposed.

"I greatly regret the loss of life and expenditure of treasure due to the fruitless guerrilla warfare maintained by Boer partisans in the former territories of the two republics.

"Their early submission is much to be desired in their own interest, as until it takes place it will be impossible for me to establish my naval forces largely contributed, will secure the equal rights of all the white inhabitants and protection and justice for the native population.

"The capture of the allied forces and the happy release of those who were besieged in the legations, results to which my Indian troops and my naval forces largely contributed, have been followed by the submission of the Chinese government to the demands insisted on by the powers. Negotiations are proceeding regarding the manner in which compliance with these demands is to be effected.

"The establishment of the Australian commonwealth was proclaimed at Sydney January 11, with many manifestations of popular enthusiasm and rejoicing. My deeply beloved and lamented mother had asserted to the visit of the Duke of Cornwall and York to open the first parliament of the new commonwealth in her name. A separation from my son, especially at such a moment, cannot be otherwise than deeply painful, but I still desire to give effect to her late Majesty's wishes and as evidence of her interest as well as of my own in all that concerns the welfare of my subjects beyond the seas, I have decided that the visit to Australia shall not be abandoned and shall be extended to New Zealand and the Dominion of Canada.

"The prolongation of the hostilities in South Africa has led me to make a further call on the patriotism and devotion of Canada and Australia. I rejoice that my request has met with a prompt and loyal response.

"Large additional contingents from these colonies will embark for the seat of war at an early date.

"The expedition organized for the suppression of the rebellion in Abyssinia has proceeded with signal success. The endurance and gallantry of native troops, ably commanded by Sir James Willcocks and led by British officers, have overcome both the stubborn resistance of the most warlike tribes of West Africa, and the exceptional difficulties of the climate and season of the country in which the operations were conducted. The garrison of Coomasse, which was besieged by the

enemy, has been relieved after a prolonged and gallant defence. The principal kings have surrendered and the chief impediment to the progress of the development of this rich portion of my West Africa possessions has now, I hope, been finally removed.

"The sufferings and mortality caused by the prolonged drought in a large portion of my Indian empire have been greatly alleviated by a seasonable rainfall, but I regret that in parts of the Bombay presidency districts of a serious character still continues, which my officers are using every endeavor to mitigate.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—The estimates for the year will be laid before you. Every care has been taken to limit their amount, but the naval and military requirements of the country, and especially the outlay consequent upon the South African war, have involved an increase.

"The genius of the crown renders it necessary that renewed attention shall be made for the civil list. I place myself at your disposal should these hereditary revenues which were so placed by my predecessor, and I have commended that the papers necessary for a full consideration of the subject shall be laid before you.

"My Lords and Gentlemen:—"Proposals will be submitted to your wisdom for the improvement of the efficiency of my military forces.

"Certain changes in the construction of the court of final appeal are rendered necessary in consequence of the increased resort to it which has resulted from the expansion of the empire. Legislation will be proposed to you for the amendment of the law relating to education.

"Legislation has been prepared, and if the time at your disposal proves to be adequate it will be laid before you for the purpose of regulating the voluntary sale of land to occupying tenants in Ireland; for amending and consolidating the factory and workshop acts; for the better administration of the law respecting lunatics; for the improvement of public health acts in regard to water supply, for the prevention of drunkenness in licensed houses, and public places, and for amending the law of literary copyright.

"I pray that Almighty God may continue to guide you in the conduct of your deliberations and that he may bless them with success.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—On the resumption of business in the house of lords, the lord chancellor read the King's speech, and the Marquis of Waterford (conservative) moved the address in reply. Lord Manners seconded the motion.

Lord Kimberley, the liberal leader, said the house needed no further assurance that the King would follow in the steps of his mother. He then proceeded to express dissatisfaction with the conduct of the war in South Africa.

Lord Salisbury followed. He referred to the manner in which the country could now hope confidently that the promise given by the King that he would follow in his mother's steps would be fully and abundantly borne out.

Dealing with the war, Lord Salisbury thought there was nothing unusual in the length of the campaign.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Speaker having read the King's speech, H. W. Forster (conservative, West Kent) moved the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

Sir Andrew N. Agnew (unionist, Edinburgh) seconded the motion.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the liberal leader, after wishing the King and Queen might have a very happy return to their political paragraphs of the speech from the throne. He asked the house to face the facts in connection with the war.

He must not shut their eyes to the gravity of the situation in South Africa. He urged the government, and paid a warm tribute to the army.

MONTREAL, Feb. 14.—The Star's London cable says: Though Strathcona Horse only landed this morning, they occupied places within 200 yards of Buckingham Palace, the roof and precincts of which were crowded with spectators.

Among the troops lining the royal route to the houses of parliament, Strathcona's, clad in dark overcoats, with grey cowboy hats, and carrying rifles, looking business-like and bronzed, were in striking contrast to the gorgiously uniformed guards.

PARLIAMENT.

The Sessions of the House Are Very Short.

Inland Revenue and Customs Collections On Tobacco For the Past Fiscal Year.

OTTAWA, Feb. 12.—Little business was transacted in the house today beyond answering questions put by members and hearing notices of motions.

Before the house proceeded to discuss private business, Mr. Maclean of East York, called the attention of the government to the impending disaster to United States railway interests through their purchase by the great trust in the world. He felt that the pooling of the great highways and coal fields, of output, banking institutions and iron and steel industries was of too grave a moment to pass unchallenged, particularly as this monster might turn its attention to Canada and wipe Canada off the map.

He asked the government to take steps to protect the railway interests of the west, even if it is necessary to secure government control of the C. P. R. and G. T. E.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier endeavored to put Mr. Maclean off by questions of order, but despite this action, Clarke Wallace, John Macdonald, and others, that attention should be given to the question of the Grand Trunk and C. P. R. building up American ports at the expense of Canada. Montreal, he said, was to be sacrificed along with St. John and Halifax, and he thought the time had arrived to put the brakes on.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier consented to give information on motion.

Answering Mr. Ingram of East Elgin, the minister of militia stated that 33 Canadian soldiers had died in Africa in the imperial service. It was not the intention of the government to send the graves had been properly marked under the supervision of the imperial authorities.

Hon. Mr. Fielding announced that a bill to establish a Canadian mint would be introduced this session. He also stated that the government would not call in debased coin, which, however, ceased to be legal tender.

Hon. Mr. Tarte refused information re the Yukon telegraph at the request of Sir Herbert Tupper, without a motion being given.

Hon. Mr. Mulock reported that the establishment of rural postal delivery would be considered at an early date.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier intimated that he had been personally invited to attend the opening of the new federal parliament and that he would accept if possible.

Sir Herbert Tupper made several motions for information covering Yukon affairs.

Hon. Mr. Sifton stated that he had not yet received Mr. Ogilvie's resignation.

Mr. Wilson of Lennox moved for information covering elevators at St. John and Halifax.

The house adjourned at 5 p. m. until tomorrow.

OTTAWA, Feb. 13.—There was another short session of the house today. The address to the King was received back from the senate and ordered to be sent to the Governor General, to be forwarded to the King.

Mr. Henderson was informed that for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1900, \$3,281,639.48 had been collected by the inland revenue department on tobacco, and that \$71,777.90 of this was due to the additional duty of 1897. The amount of tobacco collected for the same period were \$146,946.47, of which \$201,015.53 was due to the additional duty.

The number of immigrants during the year ending 31st December, 1900, was 44,821, divided as follows: United States, 14,500; England and Wales, 8,184; Scotland, 1,407; Ireland, 765; Galician, 6,583; Germans, 705; Scandinavians, 2,380; France and Belgium, 483; miscellaneous, 874.

Canadian government on the South African question since the first of June last, and if so did the Canadian government offer any opinion or make any suggestion on the matter. Mr. Bourassa will also ask if Canadian officers are recruiting for Baden-Powell's constabulary, their names, if so engaged; their pay, and by whom paid.

Mr. Monk will ask on Friday how much the government contributed to the reconstruction of the Victoria bridge; the amount paid annually by the government for the use of said bridge, the rental paid the Grand Trunk for the use of the road from St. Roalle to St. Lambert; is there anything in the agreement between the government and the Grand Trunk to prevent the latter from making its terminus at Portland.

Mr. MacLean will move on going in to supply that the Intercolonial be removed from all political influences.

Sir Chas. E. Tupper will move for a large amount of additional information in regard to the Yukon. The conservative whips were appointed tonight as follows: Mr. Taylor of South Leeds, chief whip; Corby of West Hastings; Ingram, of East Elgin; Lancaster, of Lincoln and Niagara, all for Ontario; Pope, of Compton, for Quebec; maritime provinces, Ganoux, of Charlottetown; and Lafuray of East Prince, P. E. I.; Manitoba, B. C., and N. W. T., Roche, of Marquette.

A. A. Kirk of Dorchester petitioned for a hearing on business connected with that institution.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Boer Losses at Ermelo—Their Defeat Near Aberdeen on Friday and Saturday Last.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—Gen. Kitchener in a despatch from Pretoria, dated Feb. 12, says: "French has captured a convoy of fifty wagons and fifteen caarts, and has made forty-three prisoners. We had one man wounded."

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 12.—Large bodies of republicans have been seen near Donkerpoort station, north of Norval's Point. Shots were exchanged.

The British have occupied Ficksburg with little opposition, and have released the prisoners who were in the jail. The Boers are moving in the direction of Fouriesburg, where they have most of their supplies.

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 12.—Twenty-seven Australians, Cape police and Dragoons were captured by Krustein's commando, eight miles from Baispruit, Feb. 6, after a fight in which three British and five Boers were killed. The British were afterward released.

Two hundred Boers are raiding the Prince Albert district, looting stores and destroying orchards and gardens. Several were killed and wounded.

Seven British Yeomanry, while skimming, were captured by a commando near Vryburg, which was forced to recede.

Piet De Wet has arrived in Cape Town to engage the Afrikaners in the peace movement.

LORENZO MARQUES, Feb. 12.—The fever season here is exceptionally disagreeable. Many deaths of prominent British subjects have occurred. The majority belonged to the imperial railroad administrative staff and had to be removed to a hospital ship in batches.

Patients from Komatipoort are arriving daily. The hospital ship is now filled to its capacity.

The mortality among the Boer refugees is heavy.

DURBAN, Natal, Feb. 12.—General French has re-captured a fifteen pounder captured from the British at Colenso. Many deaths of prominent British subjects have occurred.

DURBAN, Natal, Feb. 13.—The Boer losses when they were attacked by Gen. French at Ermelo, last week, are said to have been forty men killed and two hundred made prisoners.

is reported from Cape Town that the wife of Commandant General Louis Botha left Pretoria with a military escort to endeavor to persuade her husband to surrender.

Orders have been received at Kimberley from the military headquarters to suspend all civilian traffic to and from the south. The Boers tried unsuccessfully to destroy a culvert near Bank station, not far from Johannesburg. Severe fighting ensued, the Boers leaving three killed and 23 wounded behind. The British lost one killed and two wounded.

It is reported from Melbourne that Mr. Chamberlain has asked if a thousand men could be recruited in Australia for Gen. Baden-Powell's constabulary. The Australian government is expected to decline to recruit, although willing to invite volunteers.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The war office has received the following despatches from Lord Kitchener: "PRETORIA, Feb. 14.—Our troops are now engaged with Christian De Wet's force of 3,000 men at Philippstown, which we hold. De Wet having crossed the Orange River at Zand Drift, apparently moving west.

"French, reporting from a point 25 miles southeast of Ermelo, states that a large force of the enemy is being driven on to Piet Retief, their efforts to break back having so far been frustrated.

"The skirmishes charged the enemy, who left five killed and six wounded on the ground. Ten Boers were captured, and there was a large capture of wagons, carts and cattle. Our casualties were one killed and five wounded."

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 14.—Fighting is reported to have taken place near Aberdeen on Friday and Saturday last, the Boers being placed.

CHINESE PROBLEM.

Strong Opposition Developed to an Agreement by the Court in the Demands of the Powers.

PEKIN, Feb. 14.—No official communication has yet been made to the foreign envoys by the Chinese plenipotentiaries on behalf of the court, but it is known that during the last three days, four despatches from the court have been received.

As present the negotiations are no further advanced than they were at the meeting when the Chinese plenipotentiaries agreed to the death of Prince Chung and Yu Hsien. Private despatches from Shan-Fu say that a strong opposition has developed among the officials to an agreement by the court in the demands of the powers as well as an opposition to the reform edict.

Several memorials have been presented to Emperor Kwang Su, urging him to refuse further negotiations and to promote those whom the foreigners desire executed. On the other hand it appears that Chang Chieh-ung, the viceroy of Hankow, urges the commencement of reform immediately.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The Ten Tain correspondent of the Standard, writing yesterday, says: "The situation in Peking is again becoming complicated and the prospects of a settlement are more remote than ever. It is reported that the signatures of the Chinese plenipotentiaries to the peace conditions are not in correct form.

"It is believed that Sir Ernest Mason Sadow will take decisive early action. Count Von Waldensee is reported to have sent an ultimatum to the imperial court. All appearances indicate that China's immovable obstinacy is merely intended to facilitate the active preparations for a renewal of hostilities in the spring."

VERY UNCOMPLIMENTARY.

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Feb. 14.—An English steamer which arrived here today brought Carriacou newspapers containing a private letter from Bolet Perra, confidential agent of President Castro in New York, containing unpleasant reflections upon President McKinley. Perra has been much talked of as a possible Venezuelan minister to the United States.

Some of the papers in question contain articles regarding the U. S. navy that are anything but complimentary. Agents of the rival asphalt companies, involved here today, and will proceed to Pitch Lake, and a fight over the possession of the lake is likely to occur soon.

President Castro had given orders for the execution of Gen. Cullán Acosta, chief of the revolutionary movement in the Carriacou district, who fell into the hands of the government troops, but these have since been cancelled. It is suggested that he probably recalled the fact that he himself was only an insurgent.

DEVELOPMENTS EXPECTED.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 14.—Important developments in regard to the sale of the Danish West Indies are expected shortly. It is said in well informed circles that the foreign office is about ready to send a definitive and favorable reply to the United States. King Christian, it is understood, gave recent assurances that while he preferred the islands to remain Danish, if their circumstances could be improved he would be loath to prevent their transfer.

The islands have apparently concluded that enough sacrifices have already been made for the West Indies, so it is unwilling to give the further appropriations necessary to retain their possession.

"If you'll split some wood I'll give you a good meal," said the lady of the house. "Excuse me, madam," haughtily returned the wanders "I never beg breakfast with a chop," Philadelphia Record.

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Rasps, Horse Shoes, Bar Iron, Horse Shoe Nails.

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PORTLAND, Me., Feb. 14.—Deputy Sheriff Plummer has returned from Boston with a piece of evidence he thinks will be of great value during the trial of Edward Graham for the murder of Clifford Mosher of Gorham. He was sent to Boston and brought back a bloodstained wristband which was found under the carpet in the room Graham occupied while at the Elmwood Hotel in Boston.

ST. JOHN, N. B. (Additional text from the advertisement area)

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