

FAILURES OF GREAT ORATORS

Who Were Ashamed of Their Maiden Efforts.

But Who Were Afterwards Leaders in Their Generation. The Great Gladstone Was one of Them.

It must be some consolation and encouragement to the legislator who sits down, after making his maiden speech in the House of Commons with a sense of absolute failure, to know that many of the greatest parliamentary orators have had a similar experience.

When Sheridan first spoke in parliament as a member for Stafford—after it is interesting to note, paying five guineas each for every vote he polled—his speech was pronounced, even by his friends, a hopeless failure. Several times he was on the point of absolute collapse, and he sat down amid a silence which he afterwards confessed was the most terrible thing he had ever known.

And yet, very few years later, he was acknowledged by all his contemporaries to be the greatest orator even in that generation of orators.

Brougham's maiden effort was little more successful than Sheridan's. When he took his seat for Camelford he made a vow that he would not open his mouth for a whole month, and when he sat down after his first speech in condemnation of the conduct of Lord Chatham, at Walcheren, he was so depressed by a sense of failure that he half pathetically and half humorously declared that he wished he had made it a lifetime instead of a month.

When Canning, Brougham's great rival, first spoke in the commons, although he came to the house with a great reputation as an orator, he was so overcome by nervousness and consequent confusion that his speech was a disappointment to all who heard it, but to none so much as to himself.

Mr. Gladstone, the greatest parliamentary orator of last century, created anything but a favorable impression by his maiden speech on the 21st February, 1833. Of his sensations he said, "I was so nervous that I could scarcely articulate my words, and the moment I got on my feet my mind was crowded with facts and arguments, became a tabula rasa."

To many his speech was inaudible, and to those who heard it it was "punctuated by painful pauses." He did much better three months later when he spoke on slavery, for he felt so acutely the attacks that had been made on his father that "indignation put nervousness to flight," and the words flowed "like torrents of lava."

It was then recognized that a new orator was born to the house, and a brilliant future was confidently predicted for the young member.

It was nearly twenty-one years later when the present premier made his oratorical bow to the house in a speech which Hansard dismissed in a very few lines. "It would have been a greater compliment and kindness to have ignored it altogether," Lord Salisbury has since declared. But Mr. Gladstone, always generous in his praise and appreciation of others, saw promise in the halting periods of the young member for Stafford, and gave him words of treasured encouragement.

The present Duke of Devonshire has made most oratorical strides since his premier's effort of forty-three years ago, although even today he would smile at being called an orator. His first speech, which was on the unimpaired subject of Lancashire mines, was, both to speaker and hearers, a painful performance. The impression it left on the speaker he has summed up in the significant words, "I never felt so sorry for anyone in my life." But, then, the Duke never takes himself or anything quite seriously, and he would confess that oratory is not his strong point.

Mr. Balfour gave absolutely no promise of his present skill as speaker, and debater when the house first gave him an encouraging, if bored, ear in 1876 on the subject of silver. Although he came armed to the teeth with facts and figures, he was so pathetically nervous and confused that all he was able to do was to read extracts from his copious notes in a voice which few could hear.

PHILIPPINE REVENUES

Cause Spirited Discussion in the United States Congress.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—The house today resumed the debate on the bill to provide temporary revenues for the Philippine Islands under an agreement that the bill should be voted on at 4 o'clock this afternoon. The attendance in the galleries did not indicate much public interest in the debate.

Mr. Henry of Texas was the first speaker. He characterized the bill as oppressive and outrageous. Months, instead of two days, he said, would not be too long for the discussion of a measure of vital interest to ten million people. He dwelt upon the injustice of the double export and import tax on rice, sugar and tobacco and charged that this double taxation was in the interest of the sugar and tobacco trusts.

Mr. Henry took issue with his Louisiana colleagues as to the effect of free trade with the Philippines upon the sugar industry of Louisiana. He pointed out that Puerto Rico last year produced more sugar for export than the Philippines and denied that free sugar from the islands would threaten the Louisiana industry with annihilation. The benefits from the sale of cotton and rice, he argued, would more than compensate for any injury to the sugar industry.

Mr. Williams of Mississippi followed Mr. Henry. He said that as long as the Philippine archipelago was a part of the United States and within its domain it should be treated as equal of the Union, with the same equality and uniformity enjoyed by the other territories. But to avoid the embarrassments, hardships and difficulties of the situation, he believed we should get rid of the islands as soon as we could do so with honor to ourselves and benefit to the Filipinos.

Mr. Williams paid his respects to the supreme court which, he said, arrived at its decision by a "shifting majority of one." There was no danger, he said, if the country proceeded along its present lines of becoming a "mother country" for peoples in the far East. It was more likely to become a "stepmother country."

Mr. Hepburn of Iowa followed Mr. Williams. He supported the bill. He said the Democrats offered nothing in the way of a bill to improve the present measure. He declared the Filipinos were incapable of self-government, and in reply to a question by Mr. Shafer as to the capability of the Cuban he said they also were not fit for self government. He said the Democratic party forced the administration into a position where it was compelled to declare for the independence of Cuba.

This was greeted with Democratic applause. "You may applaud," said Mr. Hepburn, "but the time is not distant when you will acknowledge the wisdom of giving Cuba independence." (Republican applause.)

CANADA AND AUSTRALIA

Changes May Be Made Beneficial to Their Trade Relations.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—A report from Canada's commercial agent, J. S. Larke, at Sydney, Australia, is received. He says that while the Commonwealth government was sustained in its policy, intimations were given of changes yet to be made to the tariff. Premier Barton, in referring to a reciprocal trade agreement with Canada, said that a good many matters would have to be received from an authoritative source. Some information would have to be had as to the goods which should have the benefits of a preferential tariff.

The use of a knife and fork came as naturally to him as though he had handed them all his life. He even showed that he would rather eat from a table than from the floor of his cage. After several rehearsals in private Rajah was ready for his first public appearance.

On top of the open air cage a platform was built, and there Rajah was taken by his valet. In full view of a noisy crowd he submitted to being dressed, even to the extent of a collar and necktie. He was as unconcerned about his dressing-up as ever. A French actress was in a stage disrobing scene. He was helped into a chair at a table, and waited until the cloth had been spread. He did forget to say grace, but his audience did not notice the oversight. He ate a plateful of sliced bananas, using a fork for every slice. Then he drank his milk from a cup without spilling a drop. In the future Rajah will dine in public every bright afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Zulu is the name of the second big ape to receive the trainer's attention. He is a thin, long-faced fellow, and is always trying to get out of his cage. His body is not as well covered with reddish hair as Rajah's, but he is nearly as strong, as he demon-

TRAINING ORANG-OUTANGS

New Features in New York Zoological Garden.

The New York Zoological Garden, in Bronx Park, already has one of the most interesting collections of wild animals in captivity, and an effort is now being made to render it vastly more interesting to the general public by training some of the more intelligent animals. A start has been made with one big orang-outang, Rajah by name. He made his first public appearance last Sunday afternoon, to the great pleasure of the two thousand visitors who happened to be near the temporary headquarters of the monkey colony.

It is rather unusual for a public "zoo" to pay any attention to the development of animals for "show purposes." The keepers are usually too busy to undertake the training of the beasts under their care. A few simple tricks may be developed, but anything approaching a regular public performance has been left to the animal shows. A few weeks ago the keeper in charge of the Bronx Park monkeys decided to experiment with the orang-outangs, of which the park now has five, a number greater by four than the similar holdings of any other "zoo." Rajah, who is one of the most intelligent of the quintette, has already attained sufficient skill in the art of entertaining to warrant his public exhibition, and two others of the species are being rehearsed. It is doubtful if New Yorkers will ever see free shows of trained lions, performing bears and educated snakes at the Bronx menagerie, but the ape show is a certainty.

"Just how far we will go in training our orangs," said Director William T. Hornaday to a Tribune reporter, "is hard to say. It depends somewhat upon the interest which the public takes in the exhibitions, and still more on the orang-outangs themselves. The trainer has succeeded wonderfully well with Rajah, and is working with one or two others. I do not wish to say anything about the others until we know just what they can do."

Educated chimpanzees are no longer a novelty, for they can be easily trained to perform many interesting tricks. The orang-outangs, however, has generally been passed over by trainers. His mind does not work so rapidly as the chimpanzee's, and usually he is not fond of making an exhibition of himself in any prescribed way.

Rajah was selected for the initial experiment at Bronx Park because of his demonstrated qualities of patience, kindness and affection. He never fails to recognize Keeper Monzie, and shows his affection for him in many ways. He insists on shaking hands every time the keeper comes near his cage, and has never been known to snap at anyone. He has been at the park two months and in captivity only a little longer. He was captured by the natives of Borneo, who found him in a tree separated from the rest of the forest. He was traded and sold several times before he reached Singapore, where a New York animal dealer secured him.

When the park authorities decided to make Rajah a professional, a tailor was sent for and a full suit ordered. The measurements were taken by Mr. Dittmars, one of the curators, and the tailor made a full suit of clothes, as well as a negligee shirt. The order did not include underclothes, for Rajah is still too much of a barbarian. Neither were pajamas ordered, as the orang would probably refuse to sleep in them. When the clothes were finished Rajah tried them on, and of course they did not fit. But, like many Englishmen, the orang did not seem to care whether they fitted or not. His keepers did, however, and extensive changes were made. While they were under way, showed a patience that was more than human; not once during the long operation did he jabber in orange that he would take his trade to a better tailor next time.

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strates every time they are put in the same cage. The keepers do not allow the pair to stay behind the same bars for more than ten minutes at a time. They wrestle together until both are tired out, and while both are good natured about it neither will give up to the other. This wrestling habit will have to be overcome before the two orangs can do the family "turn" which the trainer has in view.

Miss Sally is the third ape in the collection. She is as dignified as a blue stocking of the most exclusive set, and shows little affection for her keeper, so that it is doubtful if she will ever go on the park stage. She ought to be more civilized than any of the others, having spent some time as a guest at Director Hornaday's home.

The other two apes came from Borneo on the tramp steamer Afridi, and are not at home in their new quarters. They have not been named yet. One of them has a particularly jolly face and is a remarkably good liver. There is some hope of making him the low comedy man of the Bronx Park troupe. He likes attention, and came to the front of his cage to be interviewed with a readiness that may have been due to his ignorance of the sins of reporters. He answered questions like an impressionist, without words, but with most telling gestures. All went well until his cell mate whispered something in his ear.

The orang's lower jaw dropped on hearing the message, then his hand shot out between the bars and seized the reporter's page of notes. He tried to read it, but the marks meant nothing to him. Then he tried to eat the notes. Finally he rolled to the seat into a hall and tossed it to the rear of the cage. All the while there was a twinkle in his eyes, which said, "I fooled you that time."

All of the apes seemed to take great interest in a visitor's cigar. They held out their hands for it, and tried to grab it when no one was looking. They will be denied the pleasure of smoking, however, for, as Director Hornaday says, "We allow visitors to smoke in the park; it does not make them sick, but it is against the rules for animals to indulge. Another rule prohibits giving them spirits of any kind."—New York Tribune.

SOLDIERS FOR THE EAST

Royal Garrison Artillery, Sail From Victoria for India.

Victoria, Dec. 6.—Amidst the lusty cheers of hundreds on the wharf gaily to see them off on their long voyage, No. 19 Company, western division, Royal Garrison Artillery, which for the last few years has been stationed at Work Point, sailed this morning for Hongkong on the majestic-looking liner the C. P. R. Empress of China.

The event apart from the interest it contained from the mere departure of so many men from this city possessed a special significance, for it marked the first contingent, transferred from Victoria to the Far Eastern station to go direct from here. The C. P. R. Company will have now carried troops both ways across the Pacific, and from the satisfaction of the men expressed on the comforts on board, and from the time saved in the passage either way, there is no reason for doubting that the many hundreds of His Majesty's forces almost continually going and coming from the China station in large and small bodies will all pass through this city. It has been demonstrated by recent experiments tried that from two to three days is saved in the long voyage from Hongkong, and that the men being transported are not subject to the same trying atmospheric conditions as they experienced in making the trip via the Suez canal.

In command of the force which left this morning is Major Wynn, whose staff comprise Lieutenants Gregory, Langdon and Vahl. There are 194 officers and men all told, the remaining forty odd members of the company having been left behind because of their time being about to expire.

The Empress left the wharf sharp at 11 a. m. Between four and five hundred people assembled to wish the soldiers farewell. Long before the steamer pulled out the Fifth Regiment band was in attendance. The soldiers had been conveyed to the wharf in special cars kindly placed at their disposal by the B. C. Electric railway. Their baggage had been shipped aboard early in the morning, so that the last few hours in port were taken up with formal leave taking. As the ship moved out into the offing great excitement prevailed. The cheering was deafening, and amidst all old familiar airs from the band were heard. The soldiers lined up the rigging of the ship and with five hundred Chinese aboard in another part of the vessel and the many first class passengers going to nearly all points of the compass the scene was indeed a stirring and most animated one.

With crew and all the ship had close on a thousand people aboard, there being included in the big exodus of Chinese some fifty from this city. The accommodation for the troops was provided in the aft part of the ship, which had been fitted up in a manner that greatly pleased the men. In addition to all the passengers the steamer had all the cargo she could carry, most of it consisting of flour and manufactured goods of Canada.

No. 19 Company has served about

two years at Work Point. In 1892 they were transferred from Halifax, and to the latter station they came from the Barbadoes. They are a fine lot of men, and during their residence here cultivated the acquaintanceship of a large circle of friends.

PROHIBITION IN ONTARIO

Has Not Been Recommended by Leading Officials.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—The Mail and Empire yesterday contained an article in which it was alleged that Premier Ross had decided to introduce a prohibition bill in Ontario, similar to that of Manitoba, to be made effective on a vote favoring it in this instance. It alleged further that the Premier had adopted a circuitous method of making public his intention through inspired articles in The Westminster and The London Advertiser, proofs of the former of which, it stated, had been handed to The Globe on Wednesday for publication on Thursday.

Rev. J. A. Macdonald, editor of The Westminster, when seen by a Globe representative, said: "The statement that I had been sent for by the Premier and asked to advocate a referendum is wholly and absolutely without foundation in fact. The Premier knew nothing about the attitude of the Westminster toward prohibition until he read the editorial in this week's issue. I had not seen him, nor had I any communications with him of any kind upon any subject since his return from Britain and my first assurance that he would adopt the referendum I received from The Mail this morning."

"The proposal of a referendum was suggested to me by the procedure in the Presbyterian Church, with which every Presbyterian is familiar. The advisability of it is suggested by the uncertainty of the attitude of public sentiment towards prohibition at the present time. Had The Mail reporter called at my office on Wednesday afternoon later than his custom he would have received an early copy of this week's Westminster as he usually does. No one outside the office saw proofs of my article until after its publication. I know nothing about The London Advertiser's article to which The Mail refers, more than that on Monday last when returning from Woodstock I discussed the situation with Mr. Cameron, who was on the train, and told him the position I had decided upon taking in the Westminster. The idea evidently came into his mind, and he has become an advocate of it. For myself, I protest against the insinuation that any man in church or state inspires The Westminster's views or influences its position on public questions. If Mr. Ross adopts the referendum in this case, he will, I think, be following a wise course in the interests of temperance and of prohibition, but for its advocacy in the Westminster I must accept alike the praise and blame."

Bush Ardry was killed, Garrett Thurman was shot in the back and may die, and L. S. McDonald was shot in the left shoulder in a saloon room in the village of Port, in Washington county, Oklahoma. The men had taunted the bartender, Sam Pepper, one of the men jumping upon the bar, when Pepper opened fire.

L. H. R. Von Ruecan, a well-known mining engineer of Victor, Colo., who has a project for draining the district area to a depth of 3,000 feet, received word from an English syndicate at London, with a capitalization of £1,000,000, that they had endorsed his scheme, and representatives would leave for Cripple Creek at once.

Hot and cold lunch at the Bank Saloon.

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MARINE DISASTER

Old Bark Highland Light Flounders at Sea.

Victoria, Dec. 16.—Another marine disaster has been added to the long list of casualties on this coast, although, fortunately, in this instance, so far as information at present to hand indicates, there was no loss of life. The bark Highland Light, which has been buffeted more than the ordinary run of sailing craft on this coast, is again in trouble, and is probably a wreck on the West Coast of this island.

The intelligence of the accident to the Highland Light came to the Times this morning in a dispatch from Alberni, where the belated coaster, the Queen City, called early this morning bound down from Cape Scott for Victoria, after being several days overdue. The message stated that she had on board Capt. Gillespie and the crew of the Highland Light, the latter vessel having been wrecked off Hesquiat on a date not named. It was stated, however, that the rescue of the crew had been effected by the fishing schooner Arilla, of Seattle, which would seem to indicate that that craft, too, was out of her course, as her fishing grounds are off the Cape or in the Hecate straits. That the craft in question is a coal carrier, and one of the largest sailing ships to carry cargo from the mines of the coast of British Columbia. She is owned by George E. Plummer, of San Francisco, who is at present in the city, superintending the repairs to the Charles F. Sargent, another collier which came in here last Tuesday in a leaking condition. The Highland Light left Tacoma coal laden for San Francisco on November 7th, her cargo approximating 1,700 or 1,800 tons, consigned to the South Prairie Coal Company of San Francisco. Off the Cape she evidently struck bad weather, in all probability the same storm which crippled the Sargent, which carried her down the island coast to end disastrously on the breakers in the neighborhood of Hesquiat. The Sargent encountered the storm a week ago last Monday night, and was badly shaken by it.

The Highland Light is a vessel of 1,180 tons register, and was built by W. Rogers in Maine in 1874. Her dimensions are: Length of keel, 194.9 feet, beam, 38.1, depth of hold, 34.3 feet. She was a wooden ship, and, so far as is known, there is neither insurance on her or her cargo. She was on her second outward trip from Tacoma, and previously had been engaged in the Sound-Havarian trade. At one time she carried coal from the Island mines to San Francisco, being under charter to both R. Dunsmyth & Sons, and the New Vancouver Coal Company. She is familiar to all shipping men of this port, having put in here repeatedly.

Strange to relate, the same craft was compelled to put in at Barclay Sound a few weeks later than this last year. At that time she was carrying a cargo of 2,000 tons of coal from the Sound to San Francisco, and was struck by a terrific wind storm which was then prevailing. For a time it seemed that she would not survive the tempest, and it was with the utmost difficulty that she was brought back to port. Her mizenmast was smashed, her bulwarks torn away, and her hull leaked badly.

It was just about this time that the Alpha met her doom in Baynes Sound, and the City of Topeka crashed on the rocks in northern waters. A year previous to that she was dismantled off the straits and grave anxiety was experienced for her safety. Ultimately, however, she reached port and went on the ways for repairs.

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