

Feb 14
Address to the Queen Passed
by the Legislature.

ATTACHMENT TO BRITAIN.

The Resolution Carried by
a Standing Vote.

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN" SUNG.

Legislative Chamber, Feb. 13.

The House held a short sitting to-day, but it was a sitting that was marked by an event probably unprecedented in its history. Pursuant to notice given, the Premier moved the resolution affirming the attachment of the Province of Ontario to the empire and the determination of its people to do their utmost in the event of trouble to repel invasion and to defend the integrity of the empire. At the close of Sir Oliver Mowat's speech, Mr. Marter, the leader of the Opposition, seconded the motion, after which it was carried by the members rising to vote; and then they spontaneously burst into the national anthem. It is doubtful whether such an overriding of rules of order has ever occurred before in the history of the Province, but it was a case in which the spirit rose superior to the letter of the law, and the members probably astonished themselves by the fervor with which the familiar words of "God Save the Queen" were sung. A resolution expressing the sympathy of the House with the Queen and the Princess Beatrice in their recent bereavement was also passed, and that was practically all the work which was done.

THE RESOLUTION MOVED.

After prayers the usual batch of petitions was presented, and a couple of bills were introduced. Mr. Chapple introduced a bill to amend the municipal act, and Hon. Mr. Dryden introduced a bill to further improve the agriculture and arts act. Then the orders of the day were reached, and Sir Oliver Mowat rose to move the following resolution:—

"That an address be presented to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, in the following words:—To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty: Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, in Parliament assembled, desire, in view of recent events in relation to the territorial rights of Great Britain in South America and elsewhere, to assure your Majesty of the unalterable loyalty and devotion of the people of Ontario to your Majesty's person and Crown, and to the empire over which your Majesty reigns, and that, in case of any trouble affecting the interests of the empire, no sacrifice which the circumstances might demand would be considered too great for the people of this Province, should they be called upon to repel invasion or to defend the integrity of the British Empire."

THE PREMIER'S SPEECH.

Sir Oliver, in moving this resolution, alluded to the expressions of loyalty which had marked the debate on the address, and went on to say that the circumstance that in case of war Ontario would be the first battle-ground to a considerable extent was the very circumstance which rendered it proper that the sentiments which the members of the House and their constituents entertained should be fittingly expressed and placed on record at the earliest moment. It was not that they were not alive to the horrors of war, that they did not recognize the enormous extent of the calamity. They