



The most brilliant opening of the Legislature for many years was that which occurred yesterday afternoon. Five thousand invitations had been issued, fully three-fifths of which were accepted. As early as 1 o'clock visitors began to arrive and take up their places in the gallery, and when another hour had passed there was not even standing-room in the galleries. Society, favored by faultless weather, lent its charming presence, crowding every point large enough to hold a human form. The opening ceremony was brief, and was only varied by the introduction of an unusually large number of new members, and by a question by Mr. Whitney, before adjournment, in reference to the West Elgin Commission.

Society Waits.

By 2.30 o'clock the spectators had settled down to the waiting. A buzz of conversation went up from the vast throng, broken occasionally by the interest displayed in the arrival of a prominent leader upon the floor of the House. Premier Ross and his colleagues, as well as Mr. Whitney and his lieutenants, were early upon the scene, and spent the intervening time in conversation with friends. From the

Press Galley the scene was one of rare beauty. The members had yielded to rustling femininity, and not one occupied his own seat on the floor. Evening dress was the feature, and only the intrusion of a few beams of daylight from the south end of the chamber interrupted the delusion that it was a night function. Every inch of space on the floor was taken up, while in the galleries the crowding was noticeably uncomfortable. At 2.45 a great flash lighted the chamber, and after the momentary scare had passed, the visitors realized that their photograph had been taken. Every minute saw new arrivals, and at 3 o'clock the entrance of Miss Mowat, accompanied by Mrs. Langton and Miss Biggar, gave notice of the approach of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Some of Those Present.

Among those noticed on the floor of the House were:—Chief Justice Meredith, Mr. Justice Osler, Mr. Justice MacLennan, Mr. Justice Moss, Mr. Justice Ferguson, Mr. Justice MacMahon, his Lordship the Bishop of Toronto, President Loudon, Chancellor Burwash, the Bishop of Huron, Principal Caven, Mayor Macdonald, Rev. Dr. Potts, Rev. Armstrong Black; Mr. Samuel Nordheimer, German Consul; Mr. J. Enoch Thompson, Spanish Consul; Captain Musson, Brazilian Consul; Rev. Dr.