

The Globe.

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OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE

A blinding snowstorm, sharp driven by an easterly gale, swept Queen's Park yesterday when his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Wm. Mortimer Clark, arrived at the Parliament buildings for the purpose of opening the Provincial Legislature. With the probability that this, the fourth session, will be the last in the life of Ontario's eleventh Provincial Parliament the event was of unusual interest, and long before the appointed hour for the ceremony the Chamber and galleries were thronged. There was not, it is true, the same number present as last year, but this was due to the fact that there had been a certain restriction in regard to the number of tickets issued with a view to preventing the somewhat unseemly confusion and crowding which took place last year. With the same object in view the rule that all having tickets for admission to the floor and galleries of the Chamber should be in their places before 2.30 o'clock was strictly enforced. A force of twenty police, under Inspector Cuddy, kept the corridors and approaches clear, and as a result of these arrangements the ceremony passed off without the slightest confusion. As early as 12 o'clock some of the public commenced to take their places, and long before the hour at which it was announced that the door would be closed the floor of the Chamber, thronged by the gaily-gowned ladies of fashionable Toronto, among whom were to be seen only a few somberly attired masculine members of the community, wore the appearance of a brilliant parterre in early summer. In order that the visitors might be accommodated rows of chairs were placed in between and in front of the rows of desks usually occupied by the members and on the floor facing the Speaker's chair.

Scene of Warmth and Color.

Inside the Chamber there was an atmosphere of warmth and color, while outside raged the worst blizzard of the year, through which B Battery of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, by whom the salute of fifteen guns was fired, presently trailed its way, the first precursors of his Honor. Following, great-coated and with bearskins well pulled down, came the detachment of 100 rank and file drawn from the 10th Royal Grenadiers, commanded by Capt. Donald McGillivray, with Lieuts. Gooderham and Kerr as his subalterns, and Lieut. Kerr carrying the King's colors, forming



the guard of honor. Accompanied by the band the guard sturdily forced its way through the snow and paraded, facing the main entrance to the Parliament buildings, with the band of the regiment massed on the right. A few minutes later, during which more than one member of the guard took advantage of the delay to furtively rub a half-frozen ear into life, and the travelling escort of the gubernatorial carriage loomed in sight, the escort, consisting of twelve troopers of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, under command of Sergt.-Major Curdy, lined up in front of the guard of honor, and the first gun of the salute crashed out, the guard sprang to the "present," and the opening bars of the National Anthem were played as his Honor entered the building to be received by the Premier and a group of officers representing the garrison.

The Real Opening.

In the Chamber the buzz of conversation ceased, and there was a rustle of silk as the assemblage rose when the northern door swung open to admit Lady Clark, escorted by Premier Whitney, with the Misses Clark and the Misses Reid, Scotch ladies, who are at present the guests of Sir Mortimer and Lady Clark, in attendance. The ladies of the gubernatorial party occupied seats on the floor of the Chamber to the right of the Speaker's chair, and then the Premier left again to receive his Honor. Once again the double doors to the north swung open, this time to admit the Lieutenant-Governor, whose entrance was heralded by a blaze of uniforms, amongst which all the units comprising the Toronto garrison were represented. Among the officers were:—Brigadier-General W. D. Otter, C.B., Lieut.-Col. W. C. Macdonald, Lieut.-Col. Septimus Denison, Lieut.-Col. J. Galloway, Lieut.-Col. Mason, Lieut.-Col. V. A. S. Williams, Lieut.-Col. D. M. Robertson, Major Carpenter, Major Emsley, Major Thorne, Major Macdonald, Capt. Van Straubensee, Capt. Allan, Capt. Porter,

Lieut. Denison, Lieut. Hees, Lieut. Allan, Lieut. Foy and Lieut. McCall.

His Honor, who wore the civil service uniform of his rank, entered with the Premier on his right and preceded by his aide de camps, Capt. Douglas Young, R.C.D., and Capt. Basil White, O.S.C., and walked slowly to the dais, to the right and left of which his honorary aides grouped themselves, adding one more vivid splash of color to an already brilliant scene. With clear enunciation the Lieutenant-Governor read the speech from the throne, which was as follows:—

The Speech From the Throne.

His Honor, taking his place on the dais, read the speech from the throne, which was as follows:—

Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It affords me satisfaction to once again meet you as the representatives of the people in Parliament assembled. Our thanks are due to the Almighty God that while in some sections of the Province the harvest was not as abundant as in the previous year, yet the general interest and activity of our people displayed during the past year with reference to business and commercial undertakings, indicate continued prosperity. It is also a matter of satisfaction that our Province has suffered comparatively little from the financial stringency which has been very marked in other countries during the past few months.

It will afford you gratification to know that the first payment of the additional subsidy from the Dominion, arranged for at the late Interprovincial Conference, and payable under the act passed at the last session of the Imperial Parliament, has been received.

No disposition has yet been made by the Dominion Government of the territory extending northward to Hudson Bay, and forming the hinterland of Ontario, but a decision is expected soon.

Revision of the Statutes.

The work of the revision of the statutes has made such progress that several of the important acts will be laid before you for your approval.

The construction of the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway has been nearly completed, the rails having been laid as far as a point two hundred and eight miles beyond North Bay, and about forty miles south of the probable junction with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway; while the earnings have continued to be satisfactory, and largely in excess of the outlay incurred in operating the road.

Very fair progress has been made in the development of the mining industry

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