

ADDRESS OF KING OPENS PARLIAMENT

Comments on War in the Far East.

SITUATION IN THE BALKANS

Brilliant Scene in the House of Lords. Peers and Peeresses Greet Their Majesties.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Parliament opened today. The King commenced his speech from the throne at 2:20 o'clock. He began with the statement that the relations between Great Britain and the foreign powers continued friendly and expressed particular pleasure at the visit of the King and Queen of Portugal last autumn.

Regarding the war in the Far East the King said: "The war which has been progressing since February last between Russia and Japan, unhappily continues. My government has been careful to observe in the strictest manner, the obligations incumbent upon a neutral power."

Conditions in the Balkans.

"The condition of affairs in the Balkan Peninsula," his majesty continued, "continues to give cause for anxiety. A measure adopted at the instance of the Austro-Hungarian and Russian governments has been instrumental in bringing about some amelioration in the state of the disturbed districts. Progress has been notably made in the reorganization of the gendarmerie, to which officers of my army have contributed valuable assistance. These measures have still to be supplemented by radical reforms, especially in the financial system, before any permanent improvements can be effected in the administration of these provinces of the Turkish Empire."

Aiming for Reforms.

"I note with satisfaction that the Austro-Hungarian and Russian governments have lately addressed to the Porte proposals for this purpose. My government is in communication with those of other powers mainly concerned in this important subject."

His majesty referred to the ratification of the Anglo-French convention, which he believed would operate advantageously to strengthen the friendship of both. He also referred to the arbitration agreements with Sweden and Norway, Portugal, and Switzerland.

Dogger Bank Affair.

Turning to the Dogger Bank affair, and the negotiations which followed that event, the King continued:

"My government has also come to agreement with Russia, under which an international commission of inquiry, in conformity with the Hague convention, has been formed. Their duty is to investigate the circumstances of the disaster to British trawlers, which resulted from an action of the Russian fleet in the North Sea, and to share the responsibility for this deplorable incident."

"Steps to be taken," the King continued, "to establish a representative constitution in the Transvaal are receiving the earnest consideration of the government and those administering the colony and will, I hope, result in substantial progress toward the ultimate goal of complete self-government."

The Tibetan Mission.

His majesty referred to the difficulties of the Tibetan mission in concluding an agreement at Lassa. He announced that the Chinese government had sent a commissioner to Calcutta to negotiate a convention of accession to the agreement with the Tibetans.

His majesty also referred to the appointment of a commission to settle the church difficulties in Scotland and expressed the hope that this commission would produce an efficient administration of the ecclesiastical funds and promote peace.

Concluding the King indicated bills dealing with the redistribution of alien immigration, with the unemployed, with Scotch education, with workmen's compensation and with the establishment of a house of lords.

The weather today is fine with the sky slightly overcast. A heavy rain during the night made the Mall dusty and dirty, but a big crowd gathered at an early hour, despite the bad walking, to witness the passage of the sovereigns.

The route from the palace to the houses of parliament was lined with the Household Cavalry. The bands of the Royal Artillery and Lanciers were in line, while the Coldstream Guards and Irish Guards formed the guard of honor.

AT THE LOCAL PLAYHOUSES

WILLIAM GILLETTE IN BARRIE'S 'CRICHTON'

A Fashionable Audience at the National.

A comedy which has made all England laugh and has found a lasting echo of its British popularity in American New York, reached Washington last night in the form of "The Admirable Crichton." Its author was James M. Barrie, whose earlier plays—"The Professor's Love Story" and "The Little Minister"—have raised high the expectations of his American readers. This extra interest and the popularity of William Gillette, who acted the role which gives the play its name, served to fill the National Theater.

Conspicuous in the audience were Senator and Mrs. T. C. Platt, Miss Snow, Mrs. Platt's daughter, and Mr. Carmody, their guest; Representative Gillette of Massachusetts and a party; Mrs. John R. McLean and a party; Mrs. Thomas Jefferson and a party, and Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Jenkins. Representative Sullivan of Massachusetts was also present, but was not generally recognized. The audience included otherwise unconfirmed Monday-nighters and the vanguard of visitors for the inaugural ceremonies.

Mr. Barrie's plot is a fanciful and humorous intermingling of satire on the social communist, genial play with the theories of "Swiss Family Robinson," delicate, but not deeply moving paths, and a delicious contrast of the conventionalities of modern formal society with the elemental conditions of life on a lonely island. He finds his characters in a London drawing room, and at the end of the play and after many vicissitudes, he leaves them there in their old relationship. In the meantime, however, the last has been first, the servant has been master, and social comedy has developed from a doubtful theory into a hard reality.

Who the Real Crichton Was.

The play gets its name from the chief character, a butler named Crichton. The butler, in turn, seems to have been given his name out of mental association with a distinguished scholar, soldier, swordsman, theologian, dialectician, and philosopher who stirred Europe with the inexhaustible resources of his mind in the latter part of the sixteenth century. Although but twenty-two years old when he died, the real "Admirable Crichton" was the first linguist, the first disputant of his time. One of his most remarkable performances was his challenge to the pedants of Venice not only "to refute, but to correct" the errors in Aristotle's mathematics, and schoolmen, but to meet his opponent in a hundred sorts of conduct the dispute either logically, numbers, or the secret doctrine of "verse," whatever all that may mean.

All this is re-rendered but reduced in Crichton. The butler, in fact, is at the head of his class, and ready to challenge the world, although not in a hundred sorts of verse, but in all above all these accomplishments a manner of such excellent deference to his superior that all my lord's vagaries on the equality of man give him great pain. But when the wreck casts them all ashore on an uninhabited island, then the spirit of Crichton asserts itself and makes him master. In this new post he falls in love with his old master's daughter, and has just obtained acknowledgment of her love in return when the booming of a gun bespeaks the approach of a ship. The responsibility for the signal in reply rests with the erstwhile butler, and he, in his own words, "plays the same fable."

Interesting But Not Funny.

All this appeared irresistibly to the Briton's sense of humor. Yet here in the Capital of democratic America the spectacle of a lady in love with her husband, of a servant in command over his employer did not, apparently, seem funny at all. The play was followed with manifest interest. But it was not laughed at. Just as Mr. Thomas met an unexpected unexpectedness in "The Other Girl" when he presented an aristocratic young gentleman in the role of a prizefighter's sweetheart, Mr. Barrie has found it impossible to make Washington laugh at his picture of a like young girl in the arms of a butler. Doubtless a lord, say, backed by the like true Democrat—and last night's reception of "The Admirable Crichton" would indicate that Mr. Taft's party knew America well and accurately.

Mr. Gillette's impersonation corresponds exactly with all the others who have brought him to notice. It is grim, imperturbable, impassive, stiff. Humor comes from his lips with a little warning as from the printed page. If

KENDALL'S PLAY IS WELL RECEIVED

"Weather Beaten Benson" Popular Success.

"Weather Beaten Benson" is the play in which Ezra Kendall, its reputed author, appeared before a large audience at the Columbia Theater, last night, and achieved a popular success. It is founded upon scenes and incidents during the famous Oklahoma rush of 1889—so the program states—and the audience evidently accepted this explanation at its face value. The characters brought before the footlights are of the commonplace nature one may meet every day in a rural community, and their very homeliness, accentuated now and then by the advent of personages from the centers of civilization, appeared to engage the sympathies of the audience, which was likewise charmed by an excellent scenic endowment.

Kendall presents in Mr. Benson a man who has been plentifully beaten by the whips of adversity, but has preserved through it all his native sunny temperament and an unswerving faith that everything will come right in the end. His latest venture is the establishment of a colony in the far West for which Mrs. Ormsby, a young widow and a former schoolmate, has, without his knowledge, furnished the capital. Owing to a projected drought the undertaking is on the point of failure and Benson once again doomed to disappointment when a plentiful downpour changes the whole aspect of affairs and Benson not only waxes prosperous, but also wins the hand of the girl whom he has rescued from drowning and who later forms a connecting link between other personages of the play.

Mr. Kendall invests his part with quiet, unobtrusive humor and alternating pathos. From that line he never departs and hence there is no presentation at no time anything savoring of force or heroic impulse. It is, however, consistent throughout and proved entirely acceptable to the spectators. The supporting company was more than satisfactory, especially little Mabel Talliferro as Little Miss Moses, and Lucille La Verne as Mrs. Piffles. Two Washingtonians—Alice Johnson, who appeared in the part of Mrs. Ormsby, and Thurlow Bergen, in the role of Hollis Young—were warmly welcomed by their friends, who apparently were numerous in attendance. Homer Granville proved amusing as Rusty Bartlett.

The rain shower at the close of the second act was intensely realistic and the curtain had to be raised several times to exhibit Benson in the downpour on his knees in an ecstasy of gratitude.

CHASE'S.

Kelly and Violette Divide Honors With Magic Kettle.

At Chase's last night the hit of the evening was made by Kelly and Violette, with a series of songs. Rice and

ACADEMY.

"Too Proud to Beg" Acted by Capable Company.

"Too Proud to Beg," a four-act melodrama, illustrative of certain phases of life in Chicago, is the attraction at the Academy of Music this week. Fred Eckhart, as a detective, and Mary Servoss as the detective's wife, appear to much advantage in character portrayals. The acting of Miss Servoss in the second act, as a mother bereft of her children, was effective and affecting and was given the recognition it merited. The work of Mr. Eckhart was pleasing throughout, as was that of Arthur and Mildred Boylan, as Willie and Vera Carr, his children. Jake Simon as Isaac Blum, a Jew whose greed for money leads him into bad company, but who departs the line at murder, was generously applauded.

The play is well staged, the fire scene in the first act being realistic.

LAFAYETTE.

Al Wilson Heard Enthusiastically by
Crowded House.

In the same silver-toned voice with which he rendered his original ballads and ballads years ago, Al Wilson sang many new love songs of his own composition throughout the four acts of the new piece, "The Watch on the Rhine," by Sidney Ellis, at the Lafayette Theater last night. Attracted by the pleasing personality and soft voice of Mr. Wilson, an audience composed of those who have heard him sing year in and year out crowded every bit of sitting and standing room.

Besides the star, there are several other members of the company whose work is above the ordinary. Little Miss Olive, who acted Dorothy; Aurelie Durand, who acted Baroness von Menger; Rollin Bainbridge, as Norman Steinway, and Ross O'Neal, as Count Von Beckman, deserve special mention. The company is strong and competent and the scenery was far better than the average. The scenes are laid on the banks of the Rhine.

Mr. Wilson sang last night "My Little Frauline," "The Tea Kettle Song," "My German Rose." In Tyrol, and, last of all, his best composition, "The Winding of the Yarn," which was sung by special request and well received.

WHAT THE MINISTER SAYS

Is Most Convincing.

"I thought I would write you what had a most aggravated case of bleeding piles; indeed I dreaded when I had to go to stool. One 50-cent box cured me. I feel like a new man. I have recommended it to others as being the most wonderful remedy known. It is indeed a great blessing to suffering humanity. You are at liberty to use this for all it is worth, and I hope it may do good." Rev. W. E. Carr, 355 No. Holbrook street, Danville, Va.

Clergymen (like all professional men who lead sedentary lives) are especially addicted to piles, in various forms, and are continually on the lookout for a remedy which will give relief, with little or no idea of obtaining a cure. Recognizing this fact, Rev. Mr. Carr consents to the use of his name in order that other sufferers may know there is a cure called Pyramid Pile Cure, which is sold by druggists everywhere for the low price of 50 cents a package, and will bring about relief for every afflicted with piles, the same beneficial results as in his own case. Be careful to accept no substitutes, and remember that there is no remedy "just as good." A little book describing the causes and cure of piles is published by Pyramid Drug Company, Marshall, Mich., and will be sent free for the asking. All sufferers are advised to write for it, as it contains valuable information on the subject of piles.

Cohen, in "Our Honeymoon," made quite a little fun of Joseph Yarrick, the man with the wonderful kettle, which caused a great many people to stare in open-mouthed astonishment at the seemingly impossible stunts which he did with a kettle, which, as far as looks went, might have just been taken off the stove or from the range. With some wonderful chemical stuff he was able to make his kettle do things contrary to all of the laws of kettledom. He can freeze water or boil water in his kettle with equal facility, whether it be sitting on stove or a block of ice. Max and Max Millian did some conjuring, which was plentifully interspersed with comedy. Sydney Grant contributed some character imitations and popular songs. He was very successful in several impersonations, especially that of Eddie Foy, singing "I'm So Happy."

Lyceum. "Moonlight Maids Burlesquers" Offer Exceptionally Good Show.

It was practically the unanimous opinion of the audience at the Lyceum last night that the "Moonlight Maids Burlesquers" are offering the best attraction there this week that has been seen at that house this year. It was a decided relief from the show of the week before, and the spectators showed their appreciation of the change by hearty applause. The opening burlesque was clever, and had much real fun and was not padded out with too much slapstick work. The closing burlesque was far above the average of those shown at the house and had some dialogue which was excellent.

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THE PALAIS ROYAL

Warm clothing and vigorous exercise—walking—make cold weather both invigorating and health promoting. You may need this warm clothing for the "inauguration"—such clothing may save you a long illness, perhaps your life.



\$4.98
\$15 Garments.

\$6.98
\$18 Garments.

\$9.98
\$30 Garments.

Suits and Coats—regular patrons know them, and many are gladly paying \$4.98 to \$9.98 instead of \$15 to \$30.

\$3 \$6 \$11
\$6 to \$20 Furs.

Those reduced to \$3 are the Neckscarfs you have seen here at \$6 and \$8. Those reduced to \$6 are the \$8 and \$10 Marten and Mink Stoles, Scarfs, and Muffs. Those at \$11 are \$17 and \$20 Pelerines, etc.

Children's Furs, the remaining few, are to go at next-to-nothing prices. On third floor, with Ladies' Furs.



Suits, 39c and 59c
Hose, 13c, 19c, 35c.

The "Oneita" and "Merode" Ribbed Union Suits, warmly fleeced. Ladies' and Children's sizes 39c instead of 50c, and 59c instead of \$1. Ladies' Black Cashmere Hose, reduced from 50c to 35c; Ladies' 25c Fleece-lined Black Hose, reduced from 25c to 19c; Boys' and Girls' Heavy Ribbed Hose, in all sizes, reduced from 19c to 13c.

\$6.44
\$10 Raincoats

\$2.66
\$5 Mackintoshes

For sale with umbrellas, at 11th st. door. Rain is overdue. Now's the time to prepare for the inevitable.



99c
\$1.50 Umbrellas

\$1.77
\$3 Umbrellas

The famous "Gloria" Silk Umbrellas for 99c. Silk-lisle at \$1.77. Ladies' and Men's, various style handles.

79c and \$1.79
\$1.50 to \$3 Sacques.

Made of best all-wool eiderdown, that is really warm and comforting, looking well and wearing well. Satin trimming and Silk Military fastenings, in various styles. All sizes in one style or another.

39c and 69c
50c to \$1 Skirts

Knit Wool Petticoats, red, pink, blue, and black. Those at 69c instead of \$1 are finest lambs-wool, not cumbersome, but "as warm as toast."



\$2.98 for \$5 Bath Robes
Comforting garments, with style to them. The many have profitably sold at \$5, the remaining few shall go at \$2.98 each.

THE PALAIS ROYAL

A. Lisner G and 11th Sts.

COMPLETE HOMEFURNISHERS Credit for Everyone.

Oak Hall Rack
exactly like cut; has French bevel plate mirror, 4 large double hooks, and good finish. Only **\$8.90**

When in Doubt Buy of
House & Herrmann,
Seventh and I (Eye) Streets Northwest.

Parker, Bridget & Co. Ninth and the Avenue Parker, Bridget & Co.

Rushing the Season to a Close

Men's Clothing Reduced to the Limit of Bargain Lowness.

Never held a more successful sale—perhaps because we never had so much in variety to offer you—and surely we've never had better values to offer.

The merit of the clothing emphasizes the lowness of the prices. It's the best clothing that can be made—it's better clothing than has ever been made before. And now you buy it at sale prices. Every man's and youth's sack suit, in the best patterned mixtures shown this season—and every winter overcoat in black, blue, and fancy is in the sale. The original prices remain on the garments. You make your own reductions according to the scale posted in each clothing section.