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FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY, 1915.

*Crown Office,
February 23, 1915.*

MEMBER returned to serve in the present
PARLIAMENT.

Parliamentary Borough of Maidstone.

Commander Carlyon Wilfroy Bellairs, in the place of Charles Stewart Henry, Marquess of Londonderry, formerly a Member of the House of Commons, who accepted the office of Steward or Bailiff of the Three Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke Desborough and Burnham, in the county of Buckingham.

*Foreign Office,
February 23rd, 1915.*

His Majesty's Government have decided to declare a blockade of the coast of German East Africa as from midnight, February 28th-March 1st. The blockade will extend along the whole coast, including the islands—i.e., from latitude 4° 41' South to latitude 10° 40' South.

Four days' grace from the time of the commencement of the blockade will be given for the departure of neutral vessels from the blockaded area.

Whitehall, February 25, 1915.

The KING has been pleased by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date the 22nd instant, to confer the dignities of a Viscount and Earl of the said United Kingdom upon Michael Edward, Viscount St. Aldwyn, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the names, styles and titles of Viscount Quenington of Quenington in the County of Gloucester and Earl St. Aldwyn of Coln St. Aldwyn in the said County of Gloucester.

Whitehall, February 25, 1915.

The KING has been pleased to give and grant unto the undermentioned gentlemen His Majesty's Royal licence and authority to wear Decorations (as stated against their respective names) which have been conferred upon them by the President of the Republic of China in recognition of valuable services rendered by them:—

Third Class of the Order of the Excellent Crop.

Paul Henry King, Esq.

Fourth Class of the Order of the Excellent Crop.

Charles Talbot Bowring, Esq.