



# The Edinburgh Gazette.

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BUCKINGHAM PALACE, February 5, 1867.

**T**HIS day Her Majesty proceeded in state from Buckingham Palace to the House of Peers, where she arrived soon after two o'clock; and was received on alighting from Her state carriage by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord President, the Lord Privy Seal, Lord Colville of Culross, officiating for the Lord Great Chamberlain (the Lord Willoughby de Eresby), the Deputy Earl Marshal, Garter King of Arms, and Black Rod, and proceeded into the House in the usual Order:—the Crown was borne by the Duke of Richmond, K.G., the Sword of State by the Earl of Derby, K.G., and the Cap of Maintenance by the Marquess of Winchester.

Her Majesty being seated on the Throne, and the Great Officers of State and others standing in their respective places on the right and left, Black Rod was sent with a message from Her Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their immediate attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, Her Majesty was pleased to deliver to the Lord Chancellor the following most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, which Her Majesty commanded his Lordship to read, and which he accordingly did:

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

In again recurring to your advice and assistance, I am happy to inform you that My relations with Foreign Powers are on a friendly and satisfactory footing.

I hope that the termination of the war in which Prussia, Austria, and Italy have been engaged may lead to the establishment of a durable peace in Europe.

I have suggested to the Government of the United States a mode by which questions pending between the two countries, arising out of the late Civil War, may receive amicable solution, and which, if met, as I trust it will be, in a corresponding spirit, will remove all grounds of possible misunderstanding, and promote relations of cordial friendship.

The war between Spain and the Republics of Chili and Peru still continues, the good offices of My Government, in conjunction with that of the Emperor of the French, having failed to effect a reconciliation. If, either by agreement between

the parties themselves, or by the mediation of any other friendly power, peace shall be restored, the object which I have had in view will equally be attained.

Discontent prevailing in some provinces of the Turkish Empire has broken out in actual insurrection in Crete. In common with My Allies, the Emperor of the French and the Emperor of Russia, I have abstained from any active interference in these internal disturbances, but Our joint efforts have been directed to bringing about improved relations between the Porte and its Christian subjects, not inconsistent with the sovereign rights of the Sultan.

The protracted negotiations which arose out of the acceptance by Prince Charles of Hohenzollern of the Government of the Danubian Principalities have been happily terminated by an arrangement to which the Porte has given its ready adhesion, and which has been sanctioned by the concurrence of all the Powers, signatories of the Treaty of 1856.

Resolutions in favour of a more intimate union of the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick have been passed by their several legislatures, and delegates, duly authorized, and representing all classes of colonial party and opinion, have concurred in the conditions upon which such an union may be best effected. In accordance with their wishes a Bill will be submitted to you which, by the consolidation of colonial interests and resources, will give strength to the several provinces as members of the same Empire, and animated by feelings of loyalty to the same Sovereign.

I have heard with deep sorrow that the calamity of famine has pressed heavily on My subjects in some parts of India. Instructions were issued to My Government in that country to make the utmost exertions to mitigate the distress which prevailed during the Autumn of last year. The blessing of an abundant harvest has since that time materially improved the condition of the suffering districts.

The persevering efforts and unscrupulous assertions of treasonable conspirators abroad during the last Autumn, excited the hopes of disaffected persons in Ireland, and the apprehension of the loyal population; but the firm yet temperate exercise of the powers entrusted to the executive and the hostility manifested against the con-

