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TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1838.

Buckingham-Palace, August 16, 1838.

THIS 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 coach, by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord President of the Council, the Lord Great Chamberlain, the Earl Marshal, the Lord Steward of the Household, the Lord Viscount Melbourne, Garter King of Arms, and the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, and proceeded to the robing-room in the customary manner.

Her Majesty was there robed, and, having put on the imperial crown, the procession moved into the House in the usual order;—the sword of state was borne by the Lord Viscount Melbourne, and the cap of maintenance by the Earl of Shaftesbury, in the absence of the Marquess of Winchester.

Her Majesty being seated on the Throne, the Great Officers of State and others standing on the right and left, Sir Augustus Clifford, Bart. Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a message from Her Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, Her Majesty was pleased to deliver the following most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE state of public business enables Me to close this protracted and laborious session.

I have to lament that the civil war in Spain forms an exception to the general tranquillity. I continue to receive from all foreign Powers the

strongest assurances of their desire to maintain with Me the most amicable relations.

The disturbances and insurrections which had unfortunately broken out in Upper and Lower Canada, have been promptly suppressed; and I entertain a confident hope, that firm and judicious measures will empower you to restore a Constitutional form of Government, which unhappy events have compelled you for a time to suspend.

I rejoice at the progress which has been made in My Colonial possessions towards the entire abolition of negro apprenticeship.

I have observed with much satisfaction the attention which you have bestowed upon the amendment of the domestic institutions of the country. I trust that the mitigation of the law of imprisonment for debt will prove at once favourable to the liberty of My subjects, and safe for commercial credit; and that the Established Church will derive increased strength and efficiency from the restriction of the granting of benefices in plurality.

I have felt great pleasure in giving My assent to the Bill for the relief of the destitute poor in Ireland. I cherish the expectation that its provisions have been so cautiously framed, and will be so prudently executed, that, whilst they contribute to relieve distress, they will tend to preserve order, and to encourage habits of industry and exertion.

I trust likewise that the Act which you have passed relating to the compositions for tythe in Ireland, will increase the security of that property and promote internal peace.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I cannot sufficiently thank you for your despatch and liberality in providing for the expences of My household, and the maintenance of the honour and dignity of the Crown.

I offer you my warmest acknowledgments for the addition which you have made to the income of My beloved Mother.

I thank you for the supplies which you have voted for the ordinary public service, as well as for the readiness with which you have provided means to meet the extraordinary expences rendered necessary by the state of My Canadian possessions.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The many useful measures which you have been able to consider, while the settlement of the civil list and the state of Canada demanded so much of your attention, are a satisfactory proof of your zeal for the public good. You are so well acquainted with the duties which now devolve upon you in your respective counties, that it is unnecessary to remind you of them; in the discharge of them you may securely rely upon My firm support. And it only remains to express an humble hope, that Divine Providence may watch over us all, and prosper our united efforts for the welfare of our country.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by Her Majesty's command, said;

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is Her Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday the 11th day of October next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the 11th day of October next.