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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1839.

Buckingham-Palace, August 27, 1839.

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 Privy Seal, the Marquess of Normanby, officiating for 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 public business having been brought to a close, I have now to perform the satisfactory duty of releasing you from your long and laborious attendance in Parliament.

I rejoice that a definitive treaty between Holland and Belgium, negotiated by the mediation of

the five powers, has settled the differences between those two countries, and has secured the peace of Europe from dangers to which it had so long been exposed.

The same concord which brought these intricate questions to a peaceful termination prevails with regard to the affairs of the Levant. The Five Powers are alike determined to uphold the independence and integrity of the Ottoman empire, and I trust that this union will ensure a satisfactory settlement of matters which are of the deepest importance to the whole of Europe.

It has afforded Me the sincerest pleasure to have been able to assist in effecting a reconciliation between France and Mexico. Intent upon preserving for My subjects the blessings of peace, I am highly gratified when I can avail Myself of an opportunity of removing misunderstandings between other powers.

I have recently concluded with the King of the French a convention calculated to put an end to differences which have arisen of late years between the fishermen of Great Britain and France. This convention, by removing causes of dispute, will tend to cement the union between the two countries, which is so advantageous to both, and so conducive to the general interests of Europe.

I shall continue to pursue with perseverance the negotiations in which I am engaged, to persuade all the powers of Christendom to unite in a general league for the entire extinction of the slave trade, and I trust that, with the blessing of Providence, My efforts in so righteous a cause will be rewarded with success.

I regret that the differences which led to the withdrawal of My Minister from the Court of Te-

heran, have not yet been satisfactorily adjusted by the Government of Persia.

In order to fulfil the engagements announced to you at the opening of the present session, the Governor-General of India has moved an Army across the Indus, and I have much satisfaction in being able to inform you that the advance of that expedition has been hitherto unopposed, and there is every reason to hope that the important objects for which these military operations have been undertaken will be finally obtained.

I have observed with much approbation the attention which you have bestowed upon the internal state and condition of the country. I entirely concur in the measures which you have framed for the preservation of order, the repression of crime, and the better administration of justice in this metropolis: and I have given a cordial assent to the bills which you have presented to Me for the establishment of a more efficient constabulary force in those towns which peculiarly required it, and for effecting the important objects of generally extending the civil power throughout the country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the zeal and readiness with which you have voted the supplies for the service of the year.

It has been with satisfaction that I have given My consent to a reduction of the Postage Duties. I trust that the Act which has passed on this subject will be a relief and encouragement to trade, and that by facilitating intercourse and correspondence, it will be productive of much social advantage and improvement. I have given directions that the preliminary steps should be taken to give effect to the intention of Parliament, as soon as the inquiries