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The Speech of the Lords Commissioners to both Houses of Parliament, on Thursday, February 2, 1843.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

We are commanded by Her Majesty to acquaint you, that Her Majesty receives from all Princes and States assurances of a friendly disposition towards this country, and of an earnest desire to co-operate with Her Majesty in the maintenance of general peace.

By the treaty which Her Majesty has concluded with the United States of America, and by the adjustment of those differences which, from their long continuance, had endangered the preservation of peace, Her Majesty trusts that the amicable relations of the two countries have been confirmed.

The increased exertions which, by the liberality of Parliament, Her Majesty was enabled to make for the termination of hostilities with China, have been eminently successful.

The skill, valour, and discipline, of the naval and military forces employed upon this service have been most conspicuous, and have led to the conclusion of peace upon the terms proposed by Her Majesty.

Her Majesty rejoices in the prospect that, by the free access which will be opened to the principal marts of that populous and extensive Empire, encouragement will be given to the commercial enterprise of Her people.

As soon as the ratifications of the Treaty shall have been exchanged, it will be laid before you.

In concert with Her Allies, Her Majesty has succeeded in obtaining for the Christian population of Syria, the establishment of a system of administration which they were entitled to expect from the engagements of the Sultan and from the good faith of this country.

The differences for sometime existing between the Turkish and Persian Governments had recently led to acts of hostility; but as each of these States has accepted the joint mediation of Great Britain and Russia, Her Majesty entertains a confident hope that their mutual relations will be speedily and amicably adjusted.

Her Majesty has concluded with the Emperor of Russia a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, which will be laid before you. Her Majesty regards this Treaty with great satisfaction, as the foundation for increased intercourse between Her Majesty's subjects and those of the Emperor.

Her Majesty is happy to inform you, that complete success has attended the recent military operations in Afghanistan.

Her Majesty has the greatest satisfaction in recording Her high sense of the ability with which those operations have been directed, and of the constancy and valour which have been manifested by the European and Native forces.

The superiority of Her Majesty's arms has been established by decisive victories on the scenes of former disaster; and the complete liberation of Her Majesty's subjects who were held in captivity, and for whom Her Majesty felt the deepest interest, has been effected.

We are commanded by Her Majesty to inform you, that it has not been deemed advisable to continue the occupation by a military force of the countries to the westward of the Indus.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

Her Majesty has directed the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you.

Such reductions have been made in the amount of the naval and military force as have been deemed compatible, under present circumstances, with the efficient performance of the public service, throughout the extended Empire of Her Majesty.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Her Majesty regrets the diminished receipt from some of the ordinary sources of revenue.

Her Majesty fears that it must be in part attributed to the reduced consumption of many articles caused by that depression of the manufacturing industry of the country which has so long prevailed, and which Her Majesty has so deeply lamented.

In considering, however, the present state of the revenue, Her Majesty is assured that you will bear in mind that it has been materially affected by the extensive reductions in the import duties which received your sanction during the last Session of Parliament, and that little progress has been hitherto made in the collection of those taxes which were imposed for the purpose of supplying the deficiency from that and other causes.

Her Majesty feels confident that the future produce of the revenue will be sufficient to meet every exigency of the public service.

Her Majesty commands us to acquaint you, that Her Majesty derived the utmost gratification from the loyalty and affectionate attachment to Her Majesty which were manifested on the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to Scotland.

Her Majesty regrets that in the course of last year the public peace in some of the manufacturing districts was seriously disturbed, and the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects were endangered, by tumultuous assemblages, and acts of open violence.

The ordinary law, promptly enforced, was sufficient for the effectual repression of these disorders. Her Majesty confidently relies upon its efficacy, and upon the zealous support of Her loyal and peaceable subjects, for the maintenance of tranquillity.

We are commanded by Her Majesty to acquaint you, that measures connected with the improvement of the law, and with various questions of domestic policy, will be submitted for your consideration.

Her Majesty confidently relies on your zealous endeavours to promote the public welfare, and fervently prays that the favour of Divine Providence may direct and prosper your counsels, and make them conducive to the happiness and contentment of Her people.

At the Court at Windsor, the 1st day of February 1843,
PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Her Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Honourable Sir Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, Bart. and G.C.B. to be Captain General and Governor in Chief of the provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, and of the Island of Prince Edward; and Governor General of all Her Majesty's Provinces on the Continent of North America, and of the Island of Prince Edward; he this day took the usual oaths appointed to be taken by the Governors of Her Majesty's plantations.

WAR-OFFICE, January 17, 1843.

MEMORANDUM.

In commemoration of the distinguished services, and of the gallantry displayed, by Her Majesty's troops which have been recently employed on the coasts and in the rivers of China, Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to permit the under-mentioned Corps, viz.—

18th (Royal Irish) Regiment of Foot,
26th (the Cameronian) Regiment of Foot,