



The Edinburgh Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1860.

The Speech of the Lords Commissioners to both Houses of Parliament, on Tuesday, August 28, 1860.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE are commanded by Her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to convey to you Her Majesty's acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the performance of your important duties during the long and laborious Session of Parliament now about to close.

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that Her relations with Foreign Powers are friendly and satisfactory, and Her Majesty trusts that there is no danger of any interruption of the general peace of Europe. Events of considerable importance are indeed taking place in Italy; but if no Foreign Powers interfere therein, and if the Italians are left to settle their own affairs, the tranquillity of other States will remain undisturbed.

The proposed Conferences on the subject of the cession of Savoy and of Nice to France have not yet been held; but Her Majesty confidently trusts that in any negotiations which may take place, full and adequate arrangements will be made for securing, in accordance with the spirit and letter of the Treaty of Vienna of 1815, the neutrality and independence of the Swiss Confederation.

That neutrality and independence were an object to which all the Powers who were parties to the Treaties of Vienna attached great importance; and they are no less important now, than then, for the general interests of Europe.

Her Majesty commands us to assure you that the atrocities which have been committed upon the Christian population in Syria have inspired Her Majesty with the deepest grief and indignation. Her Majesty has cheerfully concurred with the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the Prince-Regent of Prussia, and the Emperor of Russia, in entering into an engagement with the Sultan, by which temporary military assistance has been afforded to the Sultan for the purpose of re-establishing order in that part of his dominions.

We are commanded by Her Majesty to inform you that Her Majesty greatly regrets that the pacific overtures which, by Her Majesty's directions, Her Envoy in China made to the Imperial

Government at Peking, did not lead to any satisfactory result; and it has therefore been necessary that the combined Naval and Military Forces which Her Majesty, and Her Ally the Emperor of the French, had sent to the China Seas, should advance towards the Northern Provinces of China, for the purpose of supporting the just demands of the Allied Powers.

Her Majesty, desirous of giving all possible weight to Her diplomatic action in this matter, has sent to China, as Special Ambassador for this service, the Earl of Elgin, who negotiated the Treaty of Tien-Sing, the full and faithful execution of which is demanded from the Emperor of China.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

Her Majesty commands us to convey to you Her warm acknowledgments for the Liberal Supplies which you have granted for the service of the present year, and for the provision which you have made for the Defences which are essential for the security of Her Dockyards and Arsenals.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Her Majesty commands us to express to you the gratification and pride with which She has witnessed the rapid progress in Military Efficiency which Her Volunteer Forces have already made, and which is highly honourable to their spirit and patriotism.

Her Majesty has given Her cordial assent to the Act for Amalgamating Her Local European Force in India with Her Forces engaged for general service.

Her Majesty trusts that the additional freedom which you have given to Commerce will lead to fresh development of productive industry.

Her Majesty has given Her ready assent to several measures of great public usefulness.

The Acts for regulating the relations between Landlord and Tenant in Ireland will, Her Majesty trusts, remove some fertile causes of disagreement.

The Act for amending the law which regulates the Discipline of Her Majesty's Navy has established salutary rules for the administration of justice by Courts-Martial, and for maintaining good order in the Naval Service.

The Act bearing upon Endowed Charities will give means for a less expensive administration of the property of Charities, and for the speedy and economical settlement of disputes affecting such property; while, by another Act, relief

