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Westminster, January 31.

THIS Day His Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in His Royal Robes, seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Sir Francis Molyneux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most Gracious Speech :

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

THE many Proofs which you have given of your affectionate Attachment to My Person and Family leave Me no Doubt of your participating in the Satisfaction which I derive from the happy Event of the Marriage which has been celebrated between My Son, the Duke of York, and the eldest Daughter of My good Brother and Ally the King of Prussia : And I am persuaded I may expect your cheerful Concurrence in enabling Me to make a suitable Provision for their Establishment.

Since I last met you in Parliament, a Definitive Treaty has been concluded, under My Mediation and that of My Allies the King of Prussia and the States General of the United Provinces, between the Emperor and the Ottoman Porte, on Principles which appear the best calculated to prevent future Disputes between those Powers.

Our Intervention has also been employed, with a View to promote a Pacification between the Empress of Russia and the Porte ; and Conditions have been agreed upon between Us and the former of those Powers, which We undertook to recommend to the Porte, as the Re-establishment of Peace on such Terms appeared to be, under all the existing Circumstances, a desirable Event for the general Interests of Europe. I am in Expectation of speedily receiving the Account of the Conclusion of the Definitive Treaty of Peace, Preliminaries having some Time since been agreed upon between those Powers.

I have directed Copies of the Definitive Treaty between the Emperor and the Porte, to be laid before you, as well as such Papers as are necessary to shew the Terms of Peace, which have been under Discussion during the Negotiation with the Court of Petersburg.

I regret that I am not yet enabled to inform you of the Termination of the War in India : But the Success which has already attended the distinguished Bravery and Exertions of the Officers and Troops under the able Conduct of Lord Cornwallis, and the recent Advices from that Quarter, afford reasonable Ground to hope that the War may be speedily brought to an honourable Conclusion.

The friendly Assurances which I receive from Foreign Powers; and the general State of Affairs in Europe, appear to promise to My Subjects the Continuance of their present Tranquillity. Under these Circumstances I am induced to think that some immediate Reduction may safely be made in Our Naval and Military Establishments; and My Regard for the Interests of My Subjects renders Me at all Times desirous of availing Myself of any favourable Opportunity to diminish the Public Expences.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

It will, I am persuaded, give you great Satisfaction to learn that the extraordinary Expences incurred in the Course of last Year, have, in a great Measure, been already defrayed by the Grants of the Session. The State of Our Resources will, I trust, be found more than sufficient to provide for the remaining Part of those Expences, as well as for the current Service of the Year, the Estimates for which I have directed to be laid before you.

I entertain the pleasing Hope, that the Reductions which may be found practicable in the Establishments, and the continued Increase of the Revenue, will enable you, after making due Provision for the several Branches of the Public Service, to enter upon a System of gradually relieving My Subjects from some Part of the existing Taxes, at the same Time giving additional Efficacy to the Plan for the Reduction

