



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday, January 7, to Saturday, January 11, 1812.

The Speech of the Lords Commissioners to both Houses of Parliament, on Tuesday, January 7, 1812.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE are commanded by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent to express to you the deep sorrow which he feels in announcing to you the continuance of His Majesty's lamented indisposition, and the unhappy disappointment of those hopes of His Majesty's early recovery, which had been cherished by the dutiful affection of his family, and the loyal attachment of his people.

The Prince Regent has directed copies of the last reports of Her Majesty the Queen's Council to be laid before you; and he is satisfied that you will adopt such measures as the present melancholy exigency may appear to require.

In securing a suitable and ample provision for the support of His Majesty's royal dignity, and for the attendance upon His Majesty's sacred person during his illness, the Prince Regent rests assured that you will also bear in mind the indispensable duty of continuing to preserve for His Majesty the facility of resuming the personal exercise of his royal authority, in the happy event of his recovery, so earnestly desired by the wishes and the prayers of his family and his subjects.

The Prince Regent directs us to signify to you the satisfaction with which His Royal Highness has observed that the measures which have been pursued for the defence and security of the kingdom of Portugal have proved completely effectual, and that on the several occasions in which the British or Portuguese troops have been engaged with the enemy, the reputation already acquired by them has been fully maintained.

The successful and brilliant enterprize which terminated in the surprize, in Spanish Estremadura, of a French corps, by a detachment of the allied army under Lieutenant-General Hill, is highly creditable to that distinguished officer and to the troops under his command, and has contributed materially to obstruct the designs of the enemy in that part of the Peninsula.

The Prince Regent is assured, that while you reflect with pride and satisfaction on the conduct of His Majesty's troops and of the allies, in these various and important services, you will render justice to the consummate judgement and skill displayed by General Lord Viscount Wellington in the direction of the campaign.

In Spain the spirit of the people remains unsubdued, and the system of warfare so peculiarly adapted to the actual condition of the Spanish nation, has been recently extended and improved under the advantages which result from the operations of the allied armies on the frontier, and from the countenance and assistance of His Majesty's navy on the coast.

Although the great exertions of the enemy have in some quarters been attended with success, His Royal Highness is persuaded you will admire the perseverance and gallantry manifested by the Spanish armies. Even in those provinces principally occupied by the French forces, new energy has arisen among the people, and the increase of difficulty and danger has produced more connected efforts of general resistance.

The Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, commands us to express his confident hope that you will enable him to continue to afford the most effectual aid and assistance in

