



SUPPLEMENT

TO

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1814.

St. James's, November 8, 1814.

HIS Royal Highness the Prince Regent went this day in state to the House of Peers, and opened the present Session of Parliament with the following most gracious Speech from the Throne:

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

IT is with deep regret that I am again obliged to announce the continuance of His Majesty's lamented indisposition.

It would have given Me great satisfaction to have been enabled to communicate to you the termination of the war between this country and the United States of America.

Although this war originated in the most unprovoked aggression on the part of the Government of the United States, and was calculated to promote the designs of the common enemy of Europe against the rights and independence of all other nations, I never have ceased to entertain a sincere desire to bring it to a conclusion on just and honourable terms.

I am still engaged in negotiations for this purpose. The success of them must, however, depend on My disposition being met with corresponding sentiments on the part of the enemy.

The operations of His Majesty's forces by sea and land in the Chesapeake, in the course of the present year, have been attended with the most brilliant and successful results.

The flotilla of the enemy in the Patuxent has been destroyed. The signal defeat of their land forces enabled a detachment of His Majesty's army to take possession of the city of Washington, and the spirit of enterprise which has characterized all the movements in that quarter, has produced on the inhabitants a deep and sensible impression of the calamities of a war in which they have been so wantonly involved.

The expedition directed from Halifax to the Northern coast of the United States has terminated in a manner not less satisfactory. The successful course of this operation has been followed by the immediate submission of the extensive and important district east of the Penobscot river to His Majesty's arms.

In adverting to these events I am confident you will be disposed to render full justice to the valour and discipline which have distinguished His Majesty's land and sea forces, and you will regret with Me the severe loss the country has sustained by the fall of the gallant commander of His Majesty's troops in the advance upon Baltimore.

I availed Myself of the earliest opportunity afforded by the state of affairs in Europe, to detach a considerable military force to the river St. Lawrence, but its arrival could not possibly take place till an advanced period of the campaign.

Notwithstanding the reverse which appears to

have occurred on Lake Champlain, I entertain the most confident expectation, as well from the amount as from the description of the British force now serving in Canada, that the ascendancy of His Majesty's arms throughout that part of North America, will be effectually established.

The opening of the Congress at Vienna has been retarded from unavoidable causes to a later period than had been expected. It will be My earnest endeavour in the negociations, which are now in progress, to promote such arrangements as may tend to consolidate that peace, which, in conjunction with His Majesty's Allies, I have had the happiness of concluding; and to re-establish that just equilibrium amongst the different powers, which will afford the best prospect of permanent tranquillity to Europe.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have directed the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you.

I am happy to be able to inform you, that the revenue and commerce of the United Kingdom are in the most flourishing condition.

I regret the necessity of the large expenditure

which we must be prepared to meet in the course of the ensuing year; but the circumstances under which the long and arduous contest in Europe has been carried on and concluded have unavoidably led to large arrears, for which you will see the necessity of providing; and the war still subsisting with America, renders the continuance of great exertions indispensable.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

The peculiar character of the late war, as well as the extraordinary length of its duration, must have materially affected the internal situation of all the countries engaged in it, as well as the commercial relations which formerly subsisted between them.

Under these circumstances, I am confident you will see the expediency of proceeding with due caution in the adoption of such regulations as may be necessary for the purpose of extending our trade and securing our present advantages: and you may rely on my cordial co-operation and assistance in every measure which is calculated to contribute to the prosperity and welfare of His Majesty's dominions.

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