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The Speech of the Lords Commissioners to both Houses of Parliament, on Tuesday, February 4, 1823.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

WE are commanded by His Majesty to inform you, that since He last met you in Parliament His Majesty's efforts have been unremittingly exerted to preserve the peace of Europe.

Faithful to the principles which His Majesty has promulgated to the world, as constituting the rule of His conduct, His Majesty declined being party to any proceedings at Verona, which could be deemed an interference in the internal concerns of Spain, on the part of Foreign Powers; and His Majesty has since used, and continues to use, His most anxious endeavours and good offices to allay the irritation unhappily subsisting between the French and Spanish Governments, and to avert, if possible, the calamity of war between France and Spain.

In the East of Europe, His Majesty flatters Himself that peace will be preserved; and His Majesty continues to receive from His Allies, and generally from other Powers, assurances of their unaltered disposition to cultivate with His Majesty those friendly relations which it is equally His Majesty's object on His part to maintain.

We are further commanded to apprise you, that discussions having long been pending with the Court of Madrid, respecting depredations committed on the commerce of His Majesty's subjects, in the West Indian Seas, and other grievances, of which

His Majesty had been under the necessity of complaining, those discussions have terminated in an admission by the Spanish Government of the justice of His Majesty's complaints, and in an engagement for satisfactory reparation.

We are commanded to assure you, that His Majesty has not been unmindful of the Addresses presented to Him by the two Houses of Parliament with respect to the Foreign Slave Trade. Propositions for the more effectual suppression of that evil were brought forward by His Majesty's Plenipotentiary in the Conferences at Verona; and there have been added to the Treaties upon this subject already concluded between His Majesty and the Governments of Spain and the Netherlands, articles which will extend the operation of those Treaties, and greatly facilitate their execution.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

His Majesty has directed the estimates of the current year to be laid before you. They have been framed with every attention to economy; and the total expenditure will be found to be materially below that of last year.

This diminution of charge, combined with the progressive improvement of the Revenue, has produced a surplus exceeding His Majesty's expectation; His Majesty trusts, therefore, that you will be able, after providing for the services of the year, and without affecting public credit, to make a further considerable reduction in the burthen of the people, and to improve the condition of the