

Buckingham-Palace, February 5, 1839.

THIS day Her Majesty proceeded in state from Buckingham-Palace to the House of Peers, where she arrived soon after two o'clock; and was received, on alighting from her state coach, by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord President of the Council, the Lord Privy Seal, the Lord Great Chamberlain, the Earl Marshal, the Lord Steward of the Household, the Lord Viscount Melbourne, Garter King of Arms, and the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, and proceeded to the robing-room in the customary manner.

Her Majesty was there robed, and, having put on the imperial crown, the procession moved into the House in the usual order;—the sword of state was borne by the Lord Viscount Melbourne, and the cap of maintenance by the Earl of Shaftesbury, in the absence of the Marquess of Winchester.

Her Majesty being seated on the Throne, the Great Officers of State and others standing on the right and left, James Pulman, Esq. Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a message from Her Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, Her Majesty was pleased to deliver the following most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament:

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I REJOICE to meet you again in Parliament. I am particularly desirous of recurring to your advice and assistance at a period when many matters of great importance demand your serious and deliberate attention.

I continue to receive from Foreign Powers gratifying assurances of their desire to maintain with Me the most friendly relations.

I have concluded with the Emperor of Austria a Treaty of Commerce, which, I trust, will extend and improve the intercourse between My subjects and those of the Emperor.

I have also concluded a Treaty of the same kind with the Sultan, calculated to place the commercial relations between My dominions and the Turkish Empire upon a better and more secure footing.

I have directed copies of these Treaties to be laid before you.

I have engaged, in concert with Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, in negotiations with a view to

a final settlement of the differences between Holland and Belgium.

A definitive Treaty of Peace, founded upon anterior arrangements, which have been acceded to by both parties, has in consequence been proposed to the Dutch and Belgian Governments. I have the satisfaction to inform you that the Dutch Government have already signified to the conference its acceptance of that Treaty, and I trust that a similar announcement from the Belgian Government will put an end to that disquietude which the present unsettled state of these affairs has necessarily produced. The unanimity of the five Allied Powers affords a satisfactory security for the preservation of peace.

I lament the continuance of the civil war in Spain, which engages My anxious and undiminished attention.

Differences which have arisen have occasioned the retirement of My Minister from the Court of Teheran. I indulge, however, the hope of learning that a satisfactory adjustment of these differences will allow of the re-establishment of My relations with Persia upon their former footing of friendship.

Events connected with the same difference have induced the Governor General of India to take measures for protecting British interests in that quarter of the world, and to enter into engagements, the fulfilment of which may render military operations necessary. For this purpose such preparations have been made as may be sufficient to resist aggression from any quarter, and to maintain the integrity of My Eastern dominions.

The reform and amendment of the Municipal Corporations of Ireland are essential to the interests of that part of My dominions.

It is also urgent that you should apply yourselves to the prosecution and completion of those measures which have been recommended by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of England, for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the Established Church, and of confirming its hold upon the affections and respect of My people.

The better enforcement of the law, and the more speedy and certain administration of justice, are of the first importance to the welfare of the community; and I feel assured that you will be anxious to devote yourselves to the examination of the measures which will be submitted to you for the purpose of attaining these beneficial results.