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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1848.

*Buckingham-Palace, September 5, 1848.*

**T**HIS day Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Albert, proceeded in state from Buckingham-Palace to the House of Peers, where she arrived soon after one 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 Lord Steward of the Household, the Duke of Wellington, Garter King of Arms, and Black Rod, and proceeded to the robing-room in the customary manner.

Her Majesty was there robed, and the procession moved into the House in the usual order;—the sword of state was borne by the Duke of Wellington, the cap of maintenance by the Earl of Shaftesbury, in the absence of the Marquess of Winchester, and the crown by the Marquess of Lansdowne.

Her Majesty being seated on the Throne, and His Royal Highness Prince Albert on a Chair on the left side of the Cloth of Estate, the Great Officers of State and others standing on the right and left, Sir Augustus Clifford, Bart. Gentleman 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 AM happy to be able to release you from the duties of a laborious and protracted session.

The Act for the prevention of crime and outrage in Ireland, which received my assent at the commencement of the session, was attended by the most beneficial effects. The open display of arms intended for criminal purposes was checked; the course of justice was no longer interrupted; and several atrocious murderers, who had spread terror through the country, were apprehended, tried, and convicted.

The distress in Ireland consequent upon successive failures in the production of food has been mitigated by the application of the law for the relief of the poor, and by the amount of charitable contributions raised in other parts of the United Kingdom.