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FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1886.

Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech, delivered by the Lords Commissioners, to both Houses of Parliament on Thursday, August 19, 1886.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HAVE summoned you to meet at this unusual season of the year for the transaction of indispensable business.

The Session of the last Parliament was interrupted before the ordinary work of the year had been completed, in order that the sense of my people might be taken on certain important proposals with regard to the government of Ireland. The result of that appeal has been to confirm the conclusion to which the late Parliament had come.

The provisional nature of the arrangement which was made by the last Parliament for the public charge of the year renders it inexpedient to postpone any further the consideration of the necessary financial legislation.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The Estimates which were submitted to the last Parliament, and were only partially voted, will be laid before you.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

At a period of the year usually assigned for the recess, and after the prolonged and exceptional labours to which many of you have been subjected, I abstain from recommending now, for your consideration, any measures except those which are essential to the conduct of the public service during the remaining portion of the financial year. I am confident that they will receive your prompt and careful attention.

A T the Court at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, the 16th day of August, 1886.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

HER Majesty in Council was this day pleased to appoint the Lord President of the Council, the Marquess of Salisbury, K.G., the Secretaries of State for the Home, Foreign, and War Departments, the Right Homourable Edward Stanhope, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the Right Honourable Sir Henry Thurstan Holland, Bart. (Vice-President), to be a Committee of Council on Education.

A T the Court at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, the 16th day of August, 1886.

PRESENT.

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

ER Majesty in Council was this day pleased to appoint the Lord President of the Council, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Honourable Arthur James Balfour Secretary for Scotland (Vice-President), the Right Honourable Sir Francis Richard Sandford, K.C.B., and the Right Honourable John Hay Athol Macdonald (Lord-Advocate), to be a Committee of Council on Education in Scotland.

Privy Council Office, August 19, 1886.

THIS day, the Right Honourable Earl Beauchamp was, in the presence of the Lord President of the Council, sworn Her Majesty's Paymaster-General.

Privy Council Office, August 19, 1886.

THIS day, the Right Honourable Henry Cecil Raikes was, in the presence of the Lord President of the Council, sworn Postmaster-General.

A T the Court at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, the 16th day of August, 1886.

PRESENT.

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by "The Merchant Shipping Act, 1854," it was (amongst other things) enacted that Her Majesty might from time to time, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, fix the establishment to be maintained by each of the General Lighthouse Authorities on account of the services of lighthouses, buoys, and beacons, or the annual or other sums to be paid out of the Mercantile Marine Fund in respect of such establishments, and that no increase of any establishment or part of an establishment so fixed shall be made without the consent of the Board of Trade.

And whereas Her Majesty by Order in Council, dated the fourth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, was pleased to fix the establishments which might be maintained by the Commissioners of Irish Lights, the Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses, and the Corporation of Trinity House of Deptford