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Edinburgh Gazette.

Published by Authority.

FROM FRIDAY, AUGUST 12. TO TUESDAY, AUGUST 16. 1803.

WESTMINSTER—August 12.

This day his Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in his royal robes, seated on the throne with the usual solemnity, was pleased to make the following most gracious speech.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am at length enabled, by the state of public business, to release you from your long and laborious attendance in Parliament.

In closing the Session, I have the utmost satisfaction in expressing the strong sense which I entertain of that zealous and unwearied regard for the welfare and honour of your country which has distinguished all your proceedings.

During the continuance of peace, your conduct manifested the just view which you had taken of our actual situation, and of the dangers against which you were peculiarly called upon to provide; and since the recurrence of hostilities, you have displayed an energy and promptitude which have never been surpassed, in the means which you have supplied for the defence of the country, and for the vigorous prosecution of the war.

Your proceedings, in consequence of the late treasonable and atrocious occurrences in Ireland, will, I trust, have the effect of preventing any further interruption of its internal tranquillity, and of convincing my loyal subjects in that part of the united kingdom, that they may confidently rely on that protection to which they are so justly entitled.

In the midst of the deliberations, which were occasioned by the immediate exigency of the times, you have not been unmindful of other objects, to which I had directed your attention; and I have great satisfaction in observing, that you have completed a system for consolidating the duties, and regulating the collection and management of the several branches of the revenue; and that you have adopted measures which are cal-

culated to afford material accommodation to the mercantile part of the community, and to encourage and extend the navigation and commerce of my dominions.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my particular thanks for the liberality and readiness with which you have granted the supplies for the public service.

It is painful to me to reflect, that the means of necessary exertion cannot be provided without a heavy pressure upon my faithful people: But I cannot sufficiently applaud that wisdom and fortitude which have led you to overlook considerations of temporary convenience, for the purpose of preventing a large accumulation of debt during the continuance of the war. You may be assured that there shall be as strict an attention to economy on my part as may be consistent with those preparations and exertions which will be best calculated to frustrate the designs and to weaken the power of the enemy, by whose arrogant pretensions and restless ambition alone these sacrifices have been rendered unavoidable.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am fully persuaded that, during the cessation of your Parliamentary duties, you will continue to be actuated by the same spirit which has been uniformly displayed in your Councils. It will be your duty to assist in carrying into effect those important measures which your wisdom has matured for the defence and security of the realm; and particularly to give the most beneficial direction to that ardour and enthusiasm in the cause of their country which animate all classes of my people.

Justly sensible of the state of pre-eminence, in which it has pleased the Almighty to support us, for so many ages, amongst the nations of Europe, I rely with confidence, that, under the continuance of his divine protection, the exertions

of my brave and loyal subjects will prove to the enemy and to the world, that an attempt to subvert the independence, or impair the power of this united kingdom, will terminate in the disgrace and ruin of those by whom it may be made, and that my people will find an ample reward for all their sacrifices in an undisturbed enjoyment of that freedom and security, which, by their patriotism and valour, they will have preserved and ensured to themselves and their posterity.

Then the *Lord Chancellor*, by his Majesty's command, said;

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday the 6th day of October next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the 6th day of October next.

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DOWNING-STREET, August 11.

The King has been pleased to cause it to be signified by the Right Hon. Lord Hawkesbury his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the Ministers of neutral powers residing at this Court, that the necessary measures have been taken, by his Majesty's command, for the blockade of the entrance of the ports of Genoa and Spezia; and that from this time all the measures authorized by the law of nations and the respective treaties between his Majesty and the different neutral powers, will be adopted and executed with respect to all vessels which may attempt to violate the said blockade.

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WHITEHALL, July 22.

The King has been pleased to give and grant unto Alexander Mackenzie, Esq. a Major General in the army, Colonel of the seventy-eighth regiment of foot, and Representative in Parliament for the county of Cromarty, second surviving son of Colin Mackenzie, late of

[Price 6d.]

