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BUCKINGHAM-PALACE, November 11, 1852.

**T**HIS day Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness The Prince Albert, proceeded in State from Buckingham-Palace to the House of Peers, where she arrived soon after Two o'clock, and delivered the following most gracious **SPEECH** to both Houses of Parliament :—

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

I cannot meet you for the first time, after the Dissolution of Parliament, without expressing My deep sorrow, in which I am sure you will participate, that your deliberations can no longer be aided by the counsels of that illustrious man whose great achievements have exalted the Name of England, and in whose loyalty and patriotism the interests of My Throne and of My People ever found an unfailling support. I rely with confidence on your desire to join with Me in taking such steps as may mark your sense of the irreparable loss which the Country has sustained by the death of Arthur Duke of Wellington.

I am happy to acknowledge the readiness with which My Subjects in general have come forward, in pursuance of the Act of last Session, to join the ranks of the Militia, and I confidently trust that the Force thus raised by voluntary enlistment will be calculated to give effective aid to My regular Army, for the protection and security of the Country.

I continue to receive from all Foreign Powers assurances of their anxious desire to maintain the friendly relations now happily subsisting with My Government.

Frequent and well-founded complaints, on the part of My North American Colonies, of infractions by citizens of the United States of the Fishery Convention of 1818, induced Me to despatch, for the protection of their interests, a class of vessels better adapted to the service than those which had been previously employed. This step has led to discussions with the Government of the United States; and while the rights of My Subjects have been firmly maintained, the friendly spirit with which the question has been treated, induces Me to hope that the ultimate result may be a mutually beneficial extension and improvement of our commercial intercourse with that great Republic.

The Special Mission which, in concert with the Prince President of the French Republic, I deemed it right to send to the Argentine Confederation, has been received with the utmost cordiality, and the

wise and enlightened policy of the Provisional Director, has already opened to the commerce of the World the great rivers, hitherto closed, which afford an access to the interior of the vast Continent of South America.

I have the satisfaction of announcing to you that the sincere and zealous efforts of the Government of Brazil for the suppression of the slave trade, now nearly extinguished on that Coast, have enabled Me to suspend the stringent measures which I had been compelled reluctantly to adopt; a recurrence to which, I anxiously hope, may be proved to be unnecessary.

The Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty have fully recognised the justice of the claim which My Government have long urged, for the abolition of the discriminating duties on the export of wine, and have passed a decree for giving complete effect to the stipulations of the treaty on this subject.

You will probably deem it advisable to resume the inquiries which were commenced by the late Parliament, with a view to legislation on the subjects of the future Government of My East Indian possessions.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

The Estimates for the ensuing year will in due time be laid before you.

The advancement of the Fine Arts and of Practical Science will be readily recognised by you as worthy of the attention of a great and enlightened Nation.

I have directed that a comprehensive scheme shall be laid before you, having in view the promotion of these objects, towards which I invite your aid and co-operation.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

It gives Me pleasure to be enabled, by the blessing of Providence, to congratulate you on the generally improved condition of the Country, and especially of the Industrious Classes.

If you should be of opinion that recent legislation, in contributing, with other causes, to this happy result, has at the same time inflicted unavoidable injury on certain important interests, I recommend you dispassionately to consider how far it may be practicable equitably to mitigate that injury, and to enable the industry of the Country to meet successfully that unrestricted competition to which Parliament, in its wisdom, has decided that it should be subjected.