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BUCKINGHAM-PALACE, August 12, 1854.

THIS 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 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 Steward of the Household, Garter King of Arms, and the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, and proceeded to the State 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 Earl of Aberdeen, K.T., the cap of maintenance by the Marquess of Winchester, and the crown by the Marquess of Lansdowne, K.G.

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, James Pulman, Esquire, Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a message from Her Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their immediate 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 enabled by the state of public business to release you from a longer attendance in Parliament.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

In closing the Session, it affords Me great pleasure to express My sense of the zeal and energy you have shown in providing means for the vigorous prosecution of the War in which, notwithstanding My efforts to avert it, we are now engaged. This liberality in granting the supplies for the public service demands My warmest thanks; and although I lament the increased burdens of My people, I fully recognise your wisdom in sacrificing considerations of present convenience, and in providing for the immediate exigencies of the War, without an addition being made to the permanent debt of the Country.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

In cordial co-operation with the Emperor of the French, My efforts will be directed to the effectual

repression of that ambitious and aggressive spirit on the part of Russia which has compelled us to take up arms in defence of an Ally, and to secure the future tranquillity of Europe.

You will join with Me in admiration of the courage and perseverance manifested by the troops of the Sultan in their defence of Silistria, and in the various military operations on the Danube.

The engrossing interest of matters connected with the progress of the War has prevented the due consideration of some of those subjects which, at the opening of the Session, I had recommended to your attention; but I am happy to acknowledge the labour and diligence with which you have perfected various important measures, well calculated to prove of great public utility.

You have not only passed an Act for opening the coasting trade of the United Kingdom, and for removing the last Legislative restriction upon the use of Foreign vessels; but you have also revised and consolidated the whole Statute Law relating to Merchant Shipping.

The Act for establishing the direct control of the House of Commons over the charges incurred in the collection of the Revenue, will give more complete effect to an important principle of the Constitution, and will promote simplicity and regularity in our system of public accounts.

I rejoice to perceive that amendments in the administration of the law have continued to occupy your attention; and I anticipate great benefits in the improvements you have made in the forms of procedure in the Superior Courts of Common Law.

The means you have adopted for the better government of the University of Oxford, and the improvement of its constitution, I trust will tend greatly to increase the usefulness and to extend the renown of this great seminary of learning.

I have willingly given My assent to the measure you have passed for the prevention of bribery and corrupt practices at elections; and I hope that it may prove effectual in the correction of an evil which, if unchecked, threatens to fix a deep stain upon our representative system.

It is My earnest desire that on returning to your respective counties, you may preserve a spirit of union and concord. Deprived of the blessings of peace abroad, it is more than ever necessary that we should endeavour to confirm and increase the advantages of our internal situation; and it is with the greatest satisfaction that I regard the progress