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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1844.

Buckingham-Palace, February 1, 1844.

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, Sir Augustus Clifford, Bart. C.B. Deputy Great Chamberlain (in the absence of the Lord Willoughby d'Eresby), the Earl Marshal, the Lord Steward of the Household, the Duke of Wellington, Garter King of Arms, and the Yeoman Usher of the 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, and the cap of maintenance by the Marquess of Winchester.

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, Esq. Yeoman 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 ac-

cordingly, Her Majesty was pleased to deliver the following most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament:

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

IT affords me great satisfaction again to meet you in Parliament, and to have the opportunity of profiting by your assistance and advice.

I entertain a confident hope that the general peace, so necessary for the happiness and prosperity of all nations, will continue uninterrupted.

My friendly relations with the King of the French, and the good understanding happily established between my Government and that of His Majesty, with the continued assurances of the peaceful and amicable dispositions of all Princes and States, confirm me in this expectation.

I have directed that the Treaty, which I have concluded with the Emperor of China, shall be laid before you; and I rejoice to think that it will in its results prove highly advantageous to the trade of this country.

Throughout the whole course of my negotiations with the Government of China I have uniformly disclaimed the wish for any exclusive advantages.

It has been my desire that equal favour should be shown to the industry and commercial enterprise of all nations.