

establishment of such institutions as may be found best fitted to secure the independence of its people, and to restore their friendly relations with my Indian Empire.

The condition of Indian Finance, as it has recently been made known to me, has required my special attention. I have directed that you shall be supplied with the fullest information upon this weighty subject.

I invite your careful notice to the important questions of policy connected with the future of South Africa. I have continued to commend to the favourable consideration of the authorities and of the people in the various settlements the project of confederation. In maintaining my supremacy over the Transvaal, with its diversified population, I desire both to make provision for the security of the indigenous races, and to extend to the European settlers institution based on large and liberal principles of self-government.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons.*

I notice with satisfaction that the imports and exports of the country, as well as other signs, indicate some revival in trade. But the depression, which has lately been perceived in the revenue, continues without abatement. The estimates of income, which were laid before the last Parliament, were framed with moderation, but the time which has since elapsed exhibits no promise that they will be exceeded.

The annual estimates of charge, so far as they have not been already voted, will be promptly laid before you.

*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

The late season of the year at which you commence your labours will, I fear, seriously abridge the time available for useful legislation, but I make no doubt that you will studiously turn it to the best account.

The Peace Preservation Act for Ireland expires on the 1st June. You will not be asked to renew it. My desire to avoid the evils of exceptional legislation in abridgment of liberty would not induce me to forego in any degree the performance of the first duty of every Government in providing for the security of life and property. But, while determined to fulfil this sacred obligation, I am persuaded that the loyalty and good sense of my Irish subjects will justify me in relying on the provisions of the ordinary law, firmly administered for the maintenance of peace and order.

The provisions enacted before the dissolution of the late Parliament for the mitigation of distress in Ireland have been serviceable for that important end. The question of the sufficiency of the advances already authorized by Parliament is under my consideration.

A measure will at an early day be submitted to you for putting an end to the controversies which have arisen with respect to Burials in Churchyards and Cemeteries.

It will be necessary to ask you to renew the Act for Secret Voting.

Among the chief subjects which will be brought under your notice, as time may permit, will be Bills for giving more effectual protection to the occupiers of land against injury from ground game, for determining on a just principle the liabilities of employers for accidents sustained by workmen, and for the extension of the borough franchise in Ireland.

These and all your labours I heartily commend to the blessing of God.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 19th day of *May*, 1880.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

THIS day the Right Honourable John Poyntz, Earl Spencer, K.G., took the oaths of allegiance and office as Lord President of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 19th day of *May*, 1880.

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 Right Honourable the Earl Granville, K.G., the Secretaries of State for the Home and War Departments, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Right Honourable William Edward Forster, the President of the Local Government Board, and the Right Honourable Anthony John Mundella (Vice-President) to be a Committee of Council on Education.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 19th day of *May*, 1880.

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 Most Noble the Duke of Argyll, K.T., the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Honourable William Patrick Adam, the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education, and the Right Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone Grant Duff to be a Committee of Council on Education in Scotland.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 19th day of *May*, 1880.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the session of Parliament, held in the fifteenth and sixteenth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to amend the laws concerning the burial of the dead in the Metropolis," it is enacted, that in case it appears to Her Majesty in Council, upon the representation of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, that, for the protection of the public health, burials in any part or parts of the metropolis, or in any burial-ground or places of burial in the metropolis, should be wholly discontinued, or should be discontinued, subject to any exception or qualification, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order that, from and after a time mentioned in the Order, burials in such part or parts of the metropolis, or in such burial-grounds or places of burial, shall be discontinued wholly, or subject to any exceptions or qualifications mentioned in such Order, and so from time to time as circumstances may require; provided that notice of such representation, and of the time when it shall please Her Majesty to order the same to be taken into consideration by the Privy Council, shall be published in the London Gazette, and shall be affixed on the doors of the churches or chapels of the parishes in which any burial-grounds or places of