



HER

MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

This (Tuesday, Dec. 12,) being the day appointed for the opening of Parliament, at an early hour a great crowd began to assemble in the Park to witness the procession. In consequence of the great anxiety with regard to the war with Russia, there was a greater number of persons present than has been noticed for years past. At the usual hour Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, left Buckingham Palace, proceeding down the Park, and along Parliament Street to the House of Lords, where Her Majesty was received by the Officers of State, who conducted her to the Throne, which she ascended, and delivered the following Speech:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have called you together at this unusual period of the year, in order that, by your assistance, I may take such measures as will enable me to prosecute the great war in which we are engaged with the utmost vigour and effect. This assistance I know will be readily given; for I cannot doubt that you share my conviction of the necessity of sparing no effort to augment my forces now engaged in the Crimea. The exertions they have made, and the victories they have obtained, are not exceeded in the brightest pages of our history, and have filled me with admiration and gratitude.

The hearty and efficient co-operation of the brave troops of my ally the Emperor of the French, and the glory acquired in common, cannot fail to cement still more closely the union which happily subsists between the two nations.

It is with satisfaction I inform you that, together with the Emperor of the French, I have concluded a treaty of alliance with the Emperor of Austria, from which I anticipate important advantages to the common cause.

I have also concluded a treaty with the United States of America, by which subjects of long and difficult discussions have been equitably adjusted

These treaties will be laid before you.

Although the prosecution of the war will naturally engage your chief attention, I trust that other matters of great interest and importance to the general welfare will not be neglected.

I rejoice to observe the general prosperity of my subjects remain uninterrupted. The state of the revenue affords me entire satisfaction; and I trust that by your wisdom and prudence you will continue to promote the progress of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

In the estimates which will be presented to you, I trust you will find that ample provision has been made for the exigencies of the public service

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I rely with confidence on your patriotism and public spirit. I feel assured that in the momentous contest in which we are engaged you will exhibit to the world the example of a united people. Thus shall we obtain the respect of other nations, and may trust that by the blessing of God we shall bring the war to a successful termination.

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