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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Tuesday, August 11.

ROYAL SITTING—PROROGATION OF
PARLIAMENT.

The House opened with prayer at one o'clock,
and the Coal Duties Bill was read a third time
and passed.

The Dutchess of Kent came in state and took
her seat on the woolsack in front of the throne.
The King of Belgium, in an English field mar-
shal's uniform, and his Queen in a dress of wa-
tered silk, with blonde feathers, and diamonds,
entered immediately after and sat in chairs of
state on the right of the throne. The Duke of
Cambridge wore a military uniform, and occu-
pied a place on the woolsack. At two o'clock
every place was filled. The peers and peeresses,
the foreign ambassadors, and about three
hundred ladies in the gallery, giving full effect
to the scene. The Earl of Shaftesbury entered
with the cup of maintenance, Viscount Mel-
bourne with the sword of state, Prince Albert
led the Queen to the throne, and took his seat
on a chair of state on her left hand. Her Majesty
was attired in white satin trimmed with lace,
the stomacher gorgeously ornamented with dia-
monds, and a coronet of diamonds upon her head.

THE SPEAKER'S ADDRESS.

The House of Commons, summoned by Black
Rod, attended, and the Speaker thus addressed
her Majesty:—

"Most Gracious Sovereign—We, your Majesty's
faithful Commons of Great Britain and Ire-
land, attend your Majesty with the bill which
closes the supplies for the present year. In
granting these supplies to your Majesty, we
have shown our determination to support the
public credit, and to maintain the national hon-
our; and although it has been our painful duty
to impose additional burdens upon the public,
we have endeavoured to increase the available
revenues of the country by such means of taxa-
tion as will produce the least possible derange-
ment of its commerce and its industry. At the
commencement of the present session, your Ma-
jesty was graciously pleased to recommend to
our attention the state of the affairs of Canada,
the municipal corporations of Ireland, and the
report of the ecclesiastical commissioners with
reference to the established church. We have
applied ourselves with unremitting diligence
to the consideration of these important sub-
jects. We have enabled your Majesty to re-
unite the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada,
and it has been our anxious desire so to provide
for the constitutional government of that commu-
nity as to ensure its permanent tranquillity; and,
by removing every obstacle to the full develop-
ment of its resources, to lay the foundation of
its future prosperity so as to render it the source
of greatness and strength to this empire. The
Municipal institutions of Ireland have been long
since ascertained to be inconsistent with the
present state of society, and ill adapted to the
wants of the people. To remedy these defects
we have remodelled the corporations of the
larger cities and towns, we have enlarged and
defined the franchise, and by extending to Ire-
land the same principles which have been suc-
cessfully applied to England and Scotland, we
trust we have ensured to the municipal insti-
tutions of that part of the united kingdom the
respect and confidence of those for whose advan-
tage they are established. We have anxiously
considered the recommendation of the ecclesi-
astical commissioners with the view of supplying
the want of churches, and of residences for the
clergy, which is so much felt in various parts
of the country. In order to place funds applic-
able to this object, we have made some most im-
portant modifications in the constitution of cathe-
drams and chapters, which without impairing the
efficiency of those venerable institutions, will fur-
nish the means of providing for a very large class
of your Majesty's subjects and blessings of public
worship and religious instruction. Various other
subjects have pressed upon our consideration dur-
ing this session, but these three important mea-

sures have been brought to completion in pursu-
ance of your Majesty's most gracious recom-
mendation. We anxiously hope that, under the
blessings of Divine Providence, they may pro-
duce those salutary results which we venture to
anticipate, and we feel confident that they will
be regarded as additional proofs of your Ma-
jesty's desire to advance the constitutional liberty
and to promote the religious welfare of your loyal
and grateful people. It is now my duty to present
to your Majesty a bill to apply certain sums of
money out of the Consolidated Fund to the ser-
vice of the year 1840, and to appropriate the
supplies granted by this Parliament, to which,
with all humility, we pray your Majesty's royal
assent."

The Consolidated Funds, the Ecclesiastical
Duties and Revenues, the Loan Societies, the
Joint-Stock Banking Companies, and the Coal
Duties Bills, received the assent in the usual
manner, the Queen touching each with the ce-
ptre, and declaring "La reine le veut."

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The Lord Chancellor knelt at the foot of the
throne and presented to her Majesty the copy of
her speech, which her Majesty read as follows:

"My Lords and Gentlemen,
The state of public business enables me to
close this session of Parliament; and, in releas-
ing you from your attendance, I have to thank
you for the care and attention with which you
have discharged your important duties.

"I continue to receive from foreign powers
assurances of their friendly disposition, and of
their anxious desire for the maintenance of
peace.

"I congratulate you upon the termination of
the civil war in Spain. The objects for which
the quadruple engagements of 1814 were con-
tracted having now been accomplished, I am in
communication with the Queen of Spain with a
view to withdraw the naval force which in pur-
suance of those engagements, I have hitherto
stationed on the northern coast of Spain.

"I am happy to inform you that the differ-
ences with the government of Naples, the grounds
and causes of which have been laid before
you, have been put into a train of adjust-
ment by the friendly mediation of the King of
France.

"I rejoice also to acquaint you that the gov-
ernment of Portugal has made arrangements
for satisfying certain just claims of some of my
subjects, and for the payment of a sum due to
this country under the stipulations of the Con-
vention of 1827.

"I am engaged, in concert with the Emperor
of Austria, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of
Russia, and the Sultan, in measures intended to
effect the permanent pacification of the Levant,
to maintain the integrity and independence of the
Ottoman empire, and thereby to afford addi-
tional security for the peace of Europe.

"The violent injuries inflicted upon some of
my subjects by the officers of the Emperor of
China, and the indignities offered to an agent
of my Crown, have compelled me to send to the
coast of China a naval and military force, for
the purpose of demanding reparation and redress.

"I have gladly given my assent to the Act
for the regulation of Municipal Corporations in
Ireland.

"I trust that the law which you have framed
for further carrying into effect the reports of the
Ecclesiastical Commissioners will have the bene-
ficial effect of increasing the efficiency of the
Established Church, and of better providing for
the religious instruction of my people.

"I have observed with much satisfaction the
result of your deliberations on the subject of Can-
ada. It will be my duty to execute the mea-
sures which you have adopted in such a manner
as, without impairing the executive authority,
may satisfy the best wishes of my subjects, and
provide for the permanent welfare and security
of my North American provinces.

"The legislative bodies of Jamaica have ap-
plied themselves to the preparation of laws ren-
dered necessary or expedient by the altered
state of society. Some of these laws require re-
vision and amendment, but I have every reason
to expect cordial assistance from the Assembly
of Jamaica in the salutary work of improving
the condition and elevating the character of the
inhabitants of that colony. The conduct of the
emancipated negroes throughout the West In-
dies has been remarkable for tranquil obedience
to the law, and a peaceable demeanour in all
relations of social life.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,"

"I thank you for the supplies which you have
granted for the service of the year.

"I lament that it should have been necessary
to impose additional burdens upon my people,
but I trust that the means which you have
adopted for the purpose of meeting the exigen-
cies of the public service are calculated to press
with as little severity as possible upon all classes
of the community.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,"

"In returning to your respective counties,
you will resume those duties which you perform
so much to the public benefit and advantage.

"It is my anxious desire to maintain tranquillity
at home and peace abroad. To these objects,
so essential to the interests of this country and
to the general welfare of mankind, my efforts
will be sincerely and unremittingly directed;
and, feeling assured of your co-operation and
support, I humbly rely upon the superintending
care and continued protection of Divine Provi-
dence."

The extreme distinctness with which her Ma-
jesty read this speech rendered every word of it
perfectly audible in the most remote corners of
the House.

PROROGATION.

The Lord Chancellor then said—"It is her
Majesty's royal will and pleasure that this Par-
liament be prorogued to Thursday, 9th of Octo-
ber, to be then here holden, and this Parliament
is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the 9th
day of October next."

Her Majesty and the illustrious persons pre-
sent then retired, and their lordships adjourned.

From the London Gazette.

The Queen has been pleased to direct letters
patent to be passed under the Great Seal, grant-
ing the dignity of a baron of the United King-
dom of Great Britain and Ireland unto the Right
Honourable Charles Poulett Thomson, Govern-
ment-General of all her Majesty's provinces on the
continent of North America, and the heirs male
of his body lawfully begotten, by the name,
style, and title of Baron Sydenham, of Syden-
ham, in the County of Kent, and of Toronto, in
Canada.

SCOTLAND.

SIR WALTER SCOTT'S MONUMENT.

The foundation stone was laid on Saturday,
Marchmont Herald and Kintyre pursuivant ar-
ranged, in the hall of the Royal Institution, a
procession of the monument committee, the Ma-
gistrates and Council of Edinburgh Canonicate,
Leith, and Portsburg, with the officers of the
North British Staff, the royal Artillery, the
Queen's Bays, and the 29th Foot. In the quad-
rangle of the College the Masonic bodies, in
their paraphernalia, assembled in number above
1,000. The Grandmaster was presented with a
silver trowel. He is also the Lord Provost,
and was supported by the Earl of Rothen and
Lord R. Stewart, as the vice and past grand
master. The procession passed to the gardens,
the site of the monument, in Princes-street,
where 3,000 ladies and gentlemen had assem-
bled, and were each presented with a medal
commemorative of this event. On the arrival
of the procession, the galleries erected for the
occasion were filled; the sun shone gorgeously,
and the military bands played "God save the
Queen." At a given signal solemn silence was
imposed, and the Grand Chaplain (the Rev. A.
Stewart Douglas) offered up an eloquent and ap-
propriate prayer. The foundation stone was
then laid with the silver trowel, solemn music
accompanying the ceremony. Within the stone
was deposited a glass jar, containing—1. Al-
manac of 1840. 2. Six newspapers. 3. Coins:
a double sovereign of George IV. a sovereign
and half of Victoria, crown of George IV. half
crown of William IV. a shilling, sixpence, great
treppenny, twopenny, and penny silver pieces
and a penny, halfpenny, and farthing in copper.
4. Copies of inscription plates. 5. Plans of the
City and County of Edinburgh. 6. Medal
struck for the occasion. 7. List of names of
auxiliary subscribers.

The following inscription is sculptured on a
plate inserted in the face of the stone:—
THIS GRAVEN PLATE
Deposited in the Base of a Votive Building,
On the fiftieth day of August, in the year of
Christ, 1840.

And never likely to see the light again,
Till all the surrounding structures are crumbled
To dust by the decay of Time, or by
Human or Elemental violence,
May then testify to a distant posterity, that
His Countrymen began on that day
To raise an Effigy and Architectural monument
TO THE MEMORY OF SIR WALTER
SCOTT, BART.

Whose admirable Writings were then allowed
To have given more delight, and suggested
Better feeling, to a larger class of
Readers in every rank of Society
Than those of any other Author, with the
exception of Shakspeare alone,
And which were therefore thought likely to be
remembered.

Long after this Act of Gratitude
On the part of the first generation of his admirers
Should be forgotten.
He was born at Edinburgh, 15th August, 1771.
And died at Abbotsford, 21st Sept. 1832.

The foundation of the Monument was laid by the
Right Honourable Sir James Forrest,
of Comiston, Bart.
Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

And GRAND MASTER MASON OF SCOTLAND.
The Sub-Committee in charge of the Work
being the Right Hon. Sir William Rae,
of St. Catherine's, Bart.
Sir Thomas Dick Lauder of Fountainhall, Bart.
Dr. Thomas Hope, Professor of Chemistry.
George Forbes, Esq. Treasurer;
Thomas Thomson, Esq. Advocate;
And
William Burn, Esq. Architect.

With the aid and advice of
The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Melville.
James Skene, Esq. of Rubislaw, Secretary.
George M. Kemp, Architect.
John Steel, Sculptor.

IN THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF
VICTORIA THE FIRST.

The Lord Provost, in his address said—"This
was the birthday of Scott—the anniversary
of the day when a British Sovereign revisited
our long deserted palaces—this, an extraordinary
day in the calendar, was also the birthday of
Napoleon. The masonic body have had much
satisfaction in doing honour to this day, for to
his other claims Scott added that of a brother; he
was a zealous, a true hearted mason; his name
was enrolled in one of our lodges; they had
often been charmed with his society; they
counted it an honour that he had been enrolled
among them. I beg to thank the committee for
the readiness with which they acceded to the
proposal of the Grand Lodge; and I rejoice to
think that the whole ceremony, grand and im-
posing, has been conducted in a way worthy of
the occasion."—Sir W. Rae, on the part of the
committee, returned thanks, and remarked that
"the object of the work is not so much to ex-
tend and perpetuate the memory of my friend
—for that is not required—but to show to the
world the sentiments entertained by his contem-
poraries, and to evince to posterity that we have
not only benefited by his works, but that we are
anxious to show the gratitude we entertain-
ed towards the man for the profit and pleasure
we have derived from his genius."—"Rule Bri-
tannia," followed by a salute of seven guns, closed
the ceremony, and the procession returned in
reverse order.

LONDON, Aug. 15.

FUNERAL OF THE EARL OF DURHAM.

The funeral of the Earl of Durham took place
on Monday; when men of all parties united to
pay the tribute of respect to his memory. The
following account of the funeral observances is
copied from the *Times Mercury* of the 10th.
"This day the grave closed over the mortal
remains of John George Earl of Durham. From
an early period of the day, the number of ve-
hicles and equestrian travellers on the road to
Lambton Castle, from Newcastle, Sunderland,
and Durham, showed there was a strong feeling
abroad that the last mark of respect which could
be bestowed on his Lordship ought to be as
general as possible. All feeling of jealousy on the
part of his political opponents has ceased to exist;
and the men of all parties, who followed his
remains to the tomb, afford a certain hope
that now when his memory and his history
have become the property of his country, ample
justice will be done to his talents, his con-
duct, and the motives by which he was ever ac-
tuated. As early as eleven o'clock, the line of
carriages waiting in the vicinity of the Castle
was immense, and the concourse of people as-

sembled was more than the most sanguine in-
dividual could have anticipated, although it was
two hours before the time announced for re-
moving the body. Considering that the funeral
was intended to have been a private one, and
that no body of individuals were expected but
the Freemasons, the arrangements were excel-
lent. Up to the time of the procession leaving,
small parties were admitted from time to time
into the entrance-hall, where hatbands and
gloves were dispensed to the Freemasons and
several other persons. It had been especially
requested that the Freemasons would not attend
in their uniform; and they, as well as the per-
sons who attended generally, were attired in
deep mourning. In a spacious room on the left
of the hall, the noble Earl was laid in state,
and parties were admitted to walk round his cof-
fin. The coffin, of rich crimson velvet and
gold, stood in the centre of a darkened room,
sufficiently lighted by candles, placed on each
side of the body, to throw a gloom round the
place, and to render visible those attendants on
death, with their decorated staffs, who are only
to be found in houses of mourning. A brass
plate on the lid of the coffin stated the titles of
the noble Earl, the day of his birth, and the
day of his death. It stated that he was born on
the 12th of April 1792; so that on the day he
died, July 28th, his age would be forty-eight
years three months and twelve days.

Shortly after two o'clock, the venerable
Earl Grey and his Countess were observed sur-
veying the scene from a window to the right a-
bove the entrance. Time has evidently made
some alteration in his Lordship; but, under the
present trying circumstances, we were glad to
see the noble pair looking so well. His Lord-
ship did not accompany the procession to
church; but he remained at the window until
the body had been removed to the hearse, and
then retired.

At half-past two o'clock, the hearse drove
up to the entrance-door. A rider on a black
horse, bearing the coronet of the deceased Earl,
took the precedence, followed by the hearse
and four mourning-coaches, each drawn by four
horses. In the first coach was a youth, who
we understood to be the young Earl, and Hed-
worth Lambton, Esq. M. P. and William Lam-
bton, Esq. brothers of the deceased Earl. In the
second coach we observed Lord Howick, M. P.,
and other members of the Grey family. In o-
ther coaches were persons connected with his
Lordship. Immediately after the mourning-
coaches, followed his Lordship's carriage, drawn
by four of his beautiful grey horses. Then
came a line of Freemasons. After them came
another carriage of Lord Durham's, and then
the carriages of Earl Grey. Lord Londonderry's
carriage was sixth in the procession; Lord Ra-
vensworth's, in which sat his Lordship and the
Marquis of Londonderry, was seventh; Mr.
Witham's, eighth; Mr. Bigge's, thirteenth;
Mr. Hutt's, eighteenth; Mr. Thomas Fen-
wick's, twenty-third; Mr. Branding's, twenty-
sixth; Mr. Surtees's, thirty-sixth; and the Ma-
yor of Newcastle's, forty-first. Altogether, one
hundred and twenty-one carriages and other ve-
hicles, exclusive of the mourning coaches, passed
in front of the Castle. The spectators on the
road were numerous, but at Chester-le-Street
they were beyond all calculation. The de-
ceased Earl has had more brilliant victories in
Durham than any man in any county in the United
Kingdom; but we question much if ever such
a concourse assembled as there was to testify
their respect to his memory by following him to
his grave. A great number of black flags were
displayed from the windows. Precisely at five
minutes to four the hearse halted at the church-
door. Considering the crowd, and that it was
only possible to accommodate a small portion of
them, very good order was maintained. The
services at the church and at the vault were
performed by the Honourable and Reverend F.
Grey, and a brother of Lady Durham.

In the course of the day an address of con-
dolence to Lady Durham was most numerous
signed. At Newcastle, the bells tolled during
the day, the flag on the Castle was half-staff
high, as were also the flags in the ships in the
harbour. In Gateshead, the bells tolled, and
most of the shops were partially closed.

The weather has this week undergone a change
for the worse, but not to such an extent as to
cause uneasiness. The accounts from all parts
of the country continue to represent the crops in
a favourable aspect; and in those places where
the wheat has been gathered, the samples are
fine and the produce generally abundant.

LONDON, August 22.

The *Times* has recommenced its articles
upon the supposed inadequacy of the British
navy, and we have all its old correspondents
reappearing. Flag-officers, Nelsons, Brontes
and a host of other heroes, besides a large
squadron of alphabetical navigators, are spin-
ning their yarns with more than a Penelope's
industry, although, like hers, they are usu-
ally all picked to pieces at night.

While such loud preparation is going on
all around us; of course it would not behove
England to be altogether idle. It is neither
necessary, nor would it be dignified or poli-
tic in us, to trumpet forth our preparations
and magnify our efforts to fit out a fleet, but
it is necessary that we should quietly and
gradually set our navy shipshape and have
every thing ready should the necessity arrive
to launch vessels at every dockyard, and as-
semble upon one spot and at one moment an
armament that may astonish and overpower the
world.

We have no fear that the necessary pre-
cautions will be omitted or that the ministers
are slumbering. All the noise of the *Times*
did not last year induce them to commission
one more ship than they thought necessary
for the public service, and all the noise that
the *Times* may make now will not induce
them to commission one less than they
may think necessary. We are quite sure
that the same ministers who have shown so
abundantly that they care nothing for the
abuse of the *Times*, will not be deterred from
doing right by a fear lest they should seem to
yield to it.

LONDON, Aug. 15.

The session of 1840 was concluded on
Tuesday, and the speech of her Majesty up-
on the occasion offers as little mark for com-
ment as modern royal speeches usually do.
Careful not to offer to France any public

mark of distrust, her Majesty, instead of the
usual declaration as to her friendly relations
with all foreign powers, omitted the word
"all" and thus evaded any notice of the cru-
sade against England, which is now being
preached up by the French journals. This
would have been a very pitiful evasion had
the speech been intended only for the ears
of Englishmen; but it was a very wise one
when it was to go forth to all Europe, and
when any allusion to the demonstrations now
made by the French would have tended to
precipitate the outbreak of a quarrel which
will in all probability, be amicably settled.

Beyond this the speech is a mere reitera-
tion of the ordinary phrases of a royal speech;
containing the usual admonition to the Lords
and Gentlemen to take care of their local du-
ties, and making the usual slight allusions to
the principal measures of the session.

We admit that Pitt's invention of harmless
royal speeches has our cordial approval.—
Their gentle generalities are strictly in ac-
cordance with the spirit of our constitution.
The ministers have abundant opportunity to
declare their sentiments in their places in the
House of Lords and Commons. Since the
state of feeling in England is, and probably
ever will be, such that no proposition of im-
portance will ever have the concurrence of
the whole of her Majesty's subjects, it would
be highly improper for any ministers to re-
nder their mistress unpopular, even with the
smallest section of her people, by making
her identify herself personally with measures
for which they alone are responsible.

We are not sorry, therefore, to find that
the Queen's speech upon the prorogation of
Parliament offers no inducement for particu-
lar comment.

LONDON, Aug. 28.

The Lords have passed the Admiralty
Courts' Bill, which excludes Dr. Lushington
from the House of Commons, and the Duke
of Wellington made no objection to the
clause, and suggested no alteration in the
provision.

"Come forth openly," exclaimed the noble
Duke, striking the table passionately with his
clenched fist. "Come forth openly," he cried
to the imaginary personal enemies of Mr.
Recorder Shaw, when a clause in the Irish
Municipal Corporations Bill proposed to pro-
vide, not that he should be excluded from
Parliament, but that he should not sacrifice
his judicial to his Parliamentary duties—that
he should be subject to the same control that
every other recorder in London is now sub-
ject to. There was, however, no zeal, no
passion, no defiance for the enemies of Dr.
Lushington. They were not bid to come
forth openly; nor did the exercise of the
same principle in the case of Dr. Lushington,
which had excited such vehement feeling in
the case of Mr. Shaw, ruffle in any respect
the noble Duke's temper, or draw from him
a word of opposition.

Dr. Lushington is a Whig—Mr. Shaw is
a Tory, and that is the only difference which
exists between the two cases. The House of
Commons is of opinion that neither of them
should sit in Parliament. The Duke of
Wellington protects the Tory, but suffers the
expulsion of the Whig.

This is not right in the Duke of Wellington
—it is not worthy of him.

LONDON, August 31.

The principles of the Ecclesiastical Duties
and Revenues Bill has been affirmed in the
House of Lords by the second reading, and
considered in Committee. Lord Melbourne,
who had charge of the bill, seemed afraid to
be held accountable for so large a measure of
Church Reform. He threw the whole respon-
sibility on the Duke and Sir Robert.
"Thou canst not say I did it," was the bur-
den of his remarks to the Bishops, whom he
wished to propitiate. He undertook to an-
swer the objection made by counsel to the
bill, and was particularly anxious to dispel
the notion that this reform had been gained
by agitation. He assured the Lords that the
good of the Church had been the sole influ-
encing motive of Sir Robert Peel, and that
popular clamour had produced no effect.
As for himself and his colleagues—they knew
not fear, for they were unconscious of dan-
ger. After the matter had been thus intro-
duced by Lord Melbourne, the debate was
kept up by the Bishops; who urged one
against the other. The proverb of the divided
house must have escaped their memories, or
they would know the impolicy of exhibiting
such division.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, in his anx-
iety to remove the charge of treachery to the
Church, declared, in contradiction of Lord
Melbourne, that he only yielded from neces-
sity. These endowments were indeed sine-
cures, but he assured his right Reverend
brethren that he would have retained them
all for the Church, and procured more had
he been able. The Bishop of Winchester
made a display of all the good things the
Church was going to lose, and worked him-
self to a climax of astonishment and horror
at such confiscation. Lord Lyttleton, inap-
propriately enough, called these Greenwich
Hospitals of the Church "nurseries of learn-
ing and pure divinity": the institution at
Greenwich might with similar propriety be
called an infant school.

The most marked feature of the first night's
debate was the declaration of Lord Harrowby,
"that the rights of property of every kind
subsisted by virtue of a convention of society
and ought to exist only for the benefit of So-
ciety." We have indeed fallen on strange
times, when a Radical doctrine like this is
announced as an article of faith by a Tory
of the old school in the House of Lords. The
declaration from such a quarter, that prop-
erty has its duties as well as its rights, will be
little relished by the Newcastle, the West-
meaths, and their confederates, who contended
for the privilege of doing what they like with
their own.

On the second night of the discussion,
when the House went into Committee on the
bill, the squabble among the occupants of the
clerical bench became still more animad