

record of the merits of your own Regiment, and seeing that no such partial bias can possibly be supposed to guide my feelings in the estimate I have formed of their deserts, I have pleasure in sincerely declaring, that their conduct throughout the painful and perilous position in which they have so long been placed, has been such as fully to deserve the applause and admiration of their country, and the confidence and best consideration of our well beloved Sovereign.

On our throwing ourselves on the 12th of November last, into the old and ruined town of Jellalabad, without money, without food, and almost without protection, with a nation of highly excited and barbarous enemies in arms against us, our situation seemed as hopeless a one as British Troops were ever called upon to confront; notwithstanding which, the enemy was twice within twenty days attacked, and on both occasions defeated with signal success.

You yourself will doubtless detail the works performed by the Regiment, let it then be only my province who have witnessed their exertions almost hourly during a period of five months, to record, that their devoted perseverance and cheerfulness amidst all the gloom that surrounded them, after the destruction of their comrades of the Cabool Force, could not have been surpassed by any troops in the world; and that after months of extreme toil, when an earthquake, such as man is not often in the habit of experiencing, in a moment left scarcely a vestige of their labour standing, their flying as they did with redoubled zeal to the work, and completing it in ten days, (so that on the arrival of the enemy before Jellalabad, they declared that the calamity which had befallen the valley, arose from nothing but English witchcraft; it being the only place that had escaped uninjured) was what none but British soldiers could have performed, and what no price could have purchased, for it was the labour of the heart, work of all others most deserving of distinction and reward.

In regard to the native troops of all arms, I shall refrain from saying much for a reason which has in a measure induced me to address this letter to you, but as you have yourself been a daily witness of their conduct under every description of circumstance, you have it fully within your own power to say all, of which the Government they serve may very justly feel proud, and it may serve to shew us an example for imitation, what noble enthusiasm and zeal may be lighted up in their breasts by the high bearing and considerate conduct of determined British officers.

I shall conclude by observing that we can now, Sir, proudly march forth from this garrison with the enemy's standards in our hands, and their captured cannon to fire a salute, on delivering over the care of the honour of the British name, which we have had within our keeping for the last five months, pure and unspotted, and without a single circumstance existing to cast a breath upon its lustre.

The conduct of the Officers of the 35th Regiment generally, as well as those doing duty with it throughout the siege, I am proud to say, has been such as well to deserve any reward or distinction that can be conferred upon them.

Of those holding the rank of Captain and above it, which enables Her Majesty to advance them a step, I could strongly recommend Captain Seaton, 35th Regiment; Captain Younghusband, 35th Regiment, (severely wounded); Brevet Major Fraser, late 2nd Light Cavalry, and Captain Burn, 1st Regiment Native Infantry, both doing duty with the 35th Regiment.

Of the native Officers of the 35th Regiment, I could also strongly recommend, that six should, as a compliment to the Regiment for its gallant and meritorious conduct, receive the order of "Merit" and of "British India;"—viz:

SAHIB RAM, Subadar,
MANICK SING, Subadar,
DERRIOU SING, Jemadar,
RAMBUCCUS TEWARRY, Jemadar.
HOOLAS RAM, Subadar, and
HURRAM SING, Jemadar.

I have the honor to be, &c.

T. MONTEATH, Lieutenant Colonel,
Commanding the 35th Regiment.

HOUSE OF LORDS—FRIDAY, August 12.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

The gallery of the House was opened at 12 o'clock, and in the course of a few minutes was completely filled with ladies. A splendid Turkey carpet was spread on the step of the throne. Under the canopy stood Her Majesty's gorgeous Chair of State; to the right of it was placed the seat of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; the Chair of State of His Royal Highness Prince Albert being placed to the left of the Chair of Her Majesty, and somewhat in advance of it.

At five minutes after two the Park guns fired a Royal Salute, and immediately afterwards a flourish of trumpets announced the arrival of Her Majesty. Her Majesty soon after entered the House in the usual state.

Her Majesty, who was attired in her robes of State, and who wore a tiara of diamonds, was handed to the Throne by Prince Albert, her train being borne by the Duchess of Buccleuch and Viscountess Jocelyn. All rose when Her Majesty entered the

House, and the *coup d'œil* was imposing and beautiful. Her Majesty, on taking her seat on the Throne, said, "Your Lordships will be seated," upon which all present resumed their seats. Sir Augustus Clifford, the Usher of the Black Rod, was then commanded to summon the Commons to the Bar of the House, and shortly afterwards the Speaker, attended by a great number of the Members, appeared at the Bar.

The Speaker then addressed Her Majesty, and briefly enumerated the principal Bills passed during the Session. In reference to the Corn Bill, he said, "We have made some important modifications in the Corn Laws, by which we have reduced the duty, and altered the mode of taking the averages by which that duty was regulated—by which the price has been lowered to the consumer, and the fluctuations in price diminished, in consequence of which, that which has hitherto been an unhealthy speculation, has now become a regular and beneficial trade."

Her Majesty then gave Her Royal assent in the usual manner to the Bills presented by the Speaker; and also to the Canada Loan Bill, the Ecclesiastical Leasings Bill, the Saint Asaph and Bangor Livings Bill, the Bankruptcy Act Amendment Bill, the Insolvent Debtors Bill, the Municipal Corporations Bill, the Coventry Boundary Bill, the Newfoundland Bill, the Parish Constables Bill, the Slave-trade Suppression (Portuguese) Bill, the East India Bishops Bill, the Colonial Passengers Bill, Irish Marriages Bill, Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill, and the Manchester, Birmingham, and Bolton Police Bill.

The Lord Chancellor then, bending on one knee, presented the Speech to Her Majesty, who read in a clear and audible voice the following

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"The state of public business enables me to release you from further attendance in Parliament.

"I cannot take leave of you without expressing my grateful sense of the assiduity and zeal with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties during the whole course of a long and most laborious session.

"You have had under your consideration measures of the greatest importance connected with the financial and commercial interests of the country, calculated to maintain the public credit, to improve the national resources, and, by extending trade, and stimulating the demand for labour, to promote the general and permanent welfare of all classes of my subjects.

"Although measures of this description have necessarily occupied much of your attention, you have at the same time effected great improvements in several branches of jurisprudence, and in laws connected with the administration of domestic affairs.

"I return you my especial acknowledgements for the renewed proof which you afforded me of your loyalty and affectionate attachment by your ready and unanimous concurrence in an Act for the increased security and protection of my person.

"I continue to receive from all Foreign Powers assurances of their friendly disposition towards this country.

"Although I have deeply to lament the reverses which have befallen a division of the army to the Westward of the Indus, yet I have the satisfaction of reflecting that the gallant defence of the city of Jellalabad, crowned by a decisive victory in the field, has eminently proved the courage and discipline of the European and Native Troops, and the skill and fortitude of their distinguished commander.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"The liberality with which you have granted the Supplies, to meet the exigencies of the public service, demands my warm acknowledgements.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"You will concur with me in the expression of humble gratitude to Almighty God for the favourable season which His bounty has vouchsafed to us, and for the prospects of a harvest more abundant than those of recent years.

"There are, I trust, indications of gradual recovery from that depression which has affected many branches of manufacturing industry, and has exposed large classes of my people to privations and sufferings, which have caused me the deepest concern.

"You will, I am confident, be actuated on your return to your several counties by the same enlightened zeal for the public interest which you have manifested during the discharge of your Parliamentary duties, and will do your utmost to encourage by your example and active exertions, that spirit of order and submission to the law which is essential to the public happiness, and without which there can be no enjoyment of the fruits of peaceful industry, and no advance in the career of social improvement."

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

At a very numerous and highly respectable Meeting of the Inhabitants of Fredericton, convened at the County Court House, on the evening of Tuesday the 6th instant, to consider the expediency of organizing a Mechanics' Institute in this Town.

The Hon. Thomas Baillie having been called to the chair; and