

Her Majesty entered. Her Majesty bowed most graciously repeatedly, and the Prince then conducted her up to the Throne. His Royal Highness occupied the smaller Throne on the left, that on the right for the Prince of Wales, being left vacant. The Duchess of Sutherland stood on the right of the Throne, close to Her Majesty, and the Marchioness of Douro, as lady-in-waiting, stood near the Duchess. The Duke of Wellington stood immediately to the left of Her Majesty holding the Sword of State. The Marquis of Lansdowne stood on the right of the Throne, on the floor of the house, bearing the Crown on a crimson velvet cushion.

Her Majesty having seated herself, desired the Lords to be seated. The Commons were then, according to custom, summoned to appear at the bar. There was the usual rush and scramble for front places.

The Speech was then handed by the Lord Chancellor to Her Majesty, who proceeded to read it with her usual admirable clearness and emphasis. It was as follows:—

QUEEN'S SPEECH.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"It is with the deepest concern that upon your again assembling I have to call your attention to the dearth of provisions which prevails in Ireland and in parts of Scotland.

"In Ireland especially, the loss of the usual food of the people has been the cause of severe sufferings, of disease, and of greatly increased mortality among the poorer classes; outrages have become more frequent, chiefly directed against property; and the transit of provisions has been rendered unsafe in some parts of the country.

"With a view to mitigate these evils, very large numbers of men have been employed, and have received wages, in pursuance of an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament. Some deviations from that Act, which have been authorized by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in order to promote more useful employment, will, I trust, receive your sanction. Means have been taken to lessen the pressure of want in districts which are most remote from the ordinary sources of supply. Outrages have been repressed, as far as it was possible, by the military and police.

"It is satisfactory to me to observe, that in many of the most distressed districts, the patience and resignation of the people have been most exemplary.

"The deficiency of the harvest in France and Germany, and other parts of Europe, has added to the difficulty of obtaining adequate supplies of provisions.

"It will be your duty to consider what further measures are required to alleviate the existing distress. I recommend to you to take into your serious consideration, whether by increasing, for a limited period, the facilities for importing corn from foreign countries, and by the admission of sugar more freely into breweries and distilleries, the supply of food may be beneficially augmented.

"I have likewise to direct your earnest consideration to the permanent condition of Ireland. You will perceive in the absence of political excitement, an opportunity for taking a dispassionate survey of the social evils which afflict that part of the United Kingdom. Various measures will be laid before you which if adopted by Parliament, may tend to raise the great mass of the people in comfort, to promote agriculture, and to lessen the pressure of that competition for the occupation of land which has been the fruitful source of crime and misery.

"The marriage of the Infanta Louisa Fernanda of Spain to the Duke of Montpensier, has given rise to a correspondence between my Government and those of France and Spain.

"The extinction of the free State of Cracow, appeared to me to be so manifest a violation of the Treaty of Vienna, that I have commanded that a protest against that act, should be delivered to the Courts of Vienna, Petersburg and Berlin, which were parties to it. Copies of these several papers will be laid before you.

"I entertain confident hopes that the hostilities in the River Plate, which has so long interrupted commerce, may soon be terminated; and my efforts, in conjunction with those of the King of the French, will be earnestly directed to that end.

"My relations generally with Foreign Powers inspire me with the fullest confidence in the maintenance of peace.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"I have directed the estimates to be prepared, with a view to provide for the efficiency of the public service with due regard for economy.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I have ordered every requisite preparation to be made for putting into operation the act of the last Session of Parliament, for the establishment of local courts for the recovery of small debts. It is my hope that the enforcement of civil rights in all parts of the country to which the act relates, may by this measure be materially facilitated.

"I recommend to your attention measures which will be laid before you for improving the health of towns, an object the importance of which you will not fail to appreciate.

"Deeply sensible of the blessings which, after a season of calamity, have been so often vouchsafed to this nation by a superintending Providence, I confide these important matters to your care, in a full conviction that your discussions will be guided by an impartial spirit, and in the hope that the present sufferings of my people may be lightened, and that their future condition may be improved by your deliberate wisdom."

[From the Liverpool Weekly News, January 28.]

A review of the events of the past week will be read with interest. In our own country there has been much to attract the attention. Parliament has met and debated. Honorable members seem to recollect that the day of reckoning draws nigh, and to seek by explanations, notices of motions, and other outward and visible signs of attention to their duties, to secure, at the approaching elections, the "most sweet voices" of the constituents.

The public accounts have been published, and exhibit a balance which, under ordinary circumstances, would be highly satisfactory; but the high price of food, the depression existing in the manufacturing districts, and especially the enormous amount required to meet the distress in Ireland, cause much anxiety to be felt for the future, and this feeling is enhanced by the belief that a public loan will be requisite to meet the emergencies of the country.

The Ministry appears to be in earnest. Legislation has been little impeded by party differences. The principal measures which have been brought forward, though freely canvassed, have not met serious opposition. The abolition, until the first of September next, of all duties upon foreign grain—the suspension during the same period, of the navigation laws—the removal of the prohibition against the use of sugar by brewers and distillers—a projected alteration of the New Poor-Law—and an exposition of the intended measures for the relief of Ireland—have already occupied the attention of Parliament, and promise to be carried into effect in a marvellously brief period when compared with some past instances of legislative celerity.

Government appears to have become convinced that the employment of the poor in Ireland on public works