

Great-Britain.

LONDON, FEB. 5.

Early this morning the usual preparations for the opening of Parliament commenced—and were proceeded with till nearly two o'clock, when crowds of people began to assemble at both Houses of Parliament.

At two o'clock, Parliament was opened by His Majesty's Commissioners, consisting of the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Wellington, Earl Shaftesbury, Earl Bathurst, and Lord Ellenborough.

There were very few Peers in the House; amongst them we observed the Dukes of Clarence and Richmond, and Lords Goderich, Bexley, Hill, and Torrington. There were five Bishops present, amongst whom were those of London and Llandaff. The opposition benches were filled with an unusual number of Peeresses and elegantly-attired ladies.

The Members of the House of Commons having been summoned to the Bar by the Usher of the Black Rod, and the Commission having been read,

The Lord Chancellor then read the following Speech:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"His Majesty commands us to inform you, that he continues to receive from his Allies, and generally from all Princes and States, the assurance of their unabated desire to cultivate the most friendly relations with His Majesty.

"Under the Mediation of His Majesty, the Preliminaries of a Treaty of Peace between His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, and the Republic of the United Provinces of Rio de la Plata, have been signed and ratified.

"His Majesty has concluded a Convention with the King of Spain, for the final Settlement of the claims of British and Spanish Subjects, preferred under the Treaty signed at Madrid on the 12th March, 1823.

"His Majesty has directed a copy of this Convention to be laid before you, and His Majesty relies upon your assistance to enable him to execute some of its provisions.

"His Majesty laments that his diplomatic relations with Portugal are still necessarily suspended.

"Deeply interested in the prosperity of the Portuguese Monarchy, His Majesty has entered into negotiations with the head of the house of Braganza, in the hope of terminating a state of affairs which is incompatible with the permanent tranquillity and welfare of Portugal.

"His Majesty commands us to assure you, that he has laboured unremittingly to fulfil the stipulations of the Treaty of the 6th July, 1827, and to effect, in concert with the Allies, the pacification of Greece.

"The Morea has been liberated from the presence of the Egyptian and Turkish forces.

"This important object has been accomplished by the successful exertions of the naval forces of His Majesty, and of his Allies, which led to a Convention with the Pacha of Egypt; and finally, by the skilful disposition and exemplary conduct of the French Army, acting by the command of His Most Christian Majesty on the behalf of the Alliance.

"The troops of His Most Christian Majesty having completed the task assigned to them by the Allies, have commenced their return to France.

"It is with great satisfaction that His Majesty informs you, that during the whole of these operations, the most cordial union has subsisted between the forces of the three Powers by sea and land.

"His Majesty deprecates the continuance of hostilities between the Emperor of Russia, and the Ottoman Porte.

"His Imperial Majesty, in the prosecution of those hostilities, has considered it necessary to resume the exercise of his belligerent rights in the Mediterranean, and has established a blockade of the Dardanelles.

"From the operation of this Blockade, those commercial enterprises of His Majesty's Subjects have been exempted, which were undertaken upon the faith of His Majesty's declaration to his Parliament respecting the neutrality of the Mediterranean Sea.

"Although it has become indispensable for His Majesty and the King of France to suspend the co-operation of their forces with those of his Imperial Majesty, in consequence of this resumption of the exercise of his Belligerent Rights, the best un-

derstanding prevails between the three Powers in their endeavours to accomplish the remaining objects of the Treaty of London.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"We are commanded by his Majesty to acquaint you, that the Estimates for the current year will forthwith be laid before you.

"His Majesty relies on your readiness to grant the necessary Supplies with a just regard to the exigencies of the public service, and to the economy which his Majesty is anxious to enforce in every department of the State.

"His Majesty has the satisfaction to announce to you, the continued improvement of the Revenue. The progressive increase in that Branch of it which is derived from articles of internal consumption, is peculiarly gratifying to his Majesty, as affording a decisive indication of the stability of the National resources, and of the increased comfort and prosperity of his people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"The State of Ireland has been the object of His Majesty's continued solicitude.

"His Majesty laments that, in that part of the United Kingdom, an Association should still exist, which is dangerous to the Public Peace, and inconsistent with the Spirit of the Constitution, which keeps alive discord and ill-will amongst his Majesty's Subjects, and which must, if permitted to continue, effectually obstruct every effort permanently to improve the condition of Ireland.

"His Majesty confidently relies on the wisdom and on the support of his Parliament, and his Majesty feels assured that you will commit to him such powers as may enable his Majesty to maintain his just authority.

"His Majesty recommends, that when this essential object shall have been accomplished, you should take into your deliberate consideration, the whole condition of Ireland; and that you should review the Laws which impose Civil Disabilities on his Majesty's Roman Catholic Subjects.

"You will consider, whether the removal of those disabilities can be effected consistently with the full and permanent security of our Establishments in Church and State, with the maintenance of the Reformed Religion established by Law, and of the Rights and Privileges of the Bishops and of the Clergy of this Realm, and of the Churches committed to their charge.

"These are Institutions which must ever be held sacred in this Protestant Kingdom, and which it is the duty and the determination of his Majesty to preserve inviolate.

"His Majesty most earnestly recommends to you, to enter upon the consideration of a subject of such paramount importance, deeply interesting to the best feelings of his people, and involving the tranquillity and concord of the United Kingdom, with the temper and moderation which will best ensure the successful issue of your deliberations."

House of Lords, Feb. 5.—The Duke of Newcastle begged to know from the Noble Duke at the head of his Majesty's Government, after what had this day transpired, whether it was his intention to proceed by means of moving for a Committee to take into consideration the disabilities that had been thrown on the Roman Catholics, or whether it was his intention to bring in a Bill for the removal of those disabilities.

The Duke of Wellington, in answer, had the honor of informing their Lordships, that it was the intention of his Majesty's Government, according to the course proposed in his Majesty's Speech, to present to Parliament, in the course of the present Session, a measure for the adjustment of what was called the Roman Catholic Question, not going through a Committee. That measure would tend to the removal generally of all the disabilities under which the Roman Catholics laboured, with the exception solely of that which rested on special grounds; it would be accompanied also by other measures, rendered necessary by the removal of those disabilities.

York Cathedral was nearly destroyed by fire on the night of the 2d of February.

London, Feb. 7.—There has not been a great deal doing in the city to-day. The news of the ministerial intentions respecting the Catholics does not seem to have produced much effect any way; but what effect it has produced is rather favourable so far as the funds are concerned, which look rising.

THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

FREDERICTON, APRIL 14, 1829.

ALMS HOUSE AND WORK HOUSE.

COMMISSIONER FOR THE WEEK, GEO. MINCHIN, ESQ.

SAVINGS BANK.

TRUSTEES NEXT WEEK.

HENRY G. CLOPPER, ESQ.

JAMES TAYLOR, ESQ.

MARK NEEDHAM, ESQ.

His Honor the President, accompanied by the Attorney General, and His Honor's Private Secretary, left the seat of Government for St. John's, via the Nerepis Road, on Thursday last; and we understand it was His Honor's intention to return to Fredericton on the opening of the River.

Saint John, April 11.

His Honor the President, arrived here, by the Nerepis Road, from Fredericton, last evening.—His arrival was announced by a salute from the North Market wharf, when a Flag, on which was painted the City arms, was displayed; and the usual number of guns were fired on the occasion.

The Attorney-General, Charles J. Peters, Esq., arrived in town at the same time.—*Courier.*

MR. STEPHENSON.

As the circumstances which have come to hand regarding this unfortunate individual, may, from their complicated and peculiar nature, lead to results, not uninteresting to the general reader, while the various features of so singular a case may impart some information to many others; we have copied, in another part of this impression, the particulars above alluded to.—These will be found to embrace a detailed arrangement of those facts which we were reluctantly compelled to abridge in our last number; and also of others which our limits at that time precluded us from noting. The *Albion*, in the course of its comments upon this subject, makes the following note:—"The cause of the forcible seizure in Georgia was undoubtedly the high reward offered, and the allurement held out in the *hand bill* circulated throughout the country by Mr. Parkins. It was this that stimulated the cupidity of the kidnappers beyond any shadow of doubt. This reward was offered, as we are now told, unaccompanied by any legal process; we hope, however, this is not true, for even the King dare not thus set a price upon a man's head without issuing the proper warrants for his apprehension. We shall be happy to correct this statement if really untrue, for it may be difficult to draw a line of distinction between the person *inciting* the crime of abduction, and those actually committing it."

The *Albion* of the 28th ult., announces the release of Mr. Stephenson, and his subsequent departure for Philadelphia.—We shall publish the decision of the Supreme Court of New-York, in this case, next week.—Mr. S. was discharged on the ground that he was brought forcibly and illegally within the jurisdiction of that Court.

A copy of the Speech of the King of France, which we could only allude to in our last, will be found in our present columns.—It is, in many respects, a very satisfactory document, and generally of an interesting nature.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT OF GREAT-BRITAIN.

The unusually important nature of the last advices from England, which are to the 24th of February, via Halifax, and 7 days later than those via New-York, contained in the *Saint John Courier* of the 11th inst., has excited in us a sincere regret, that the unavoidable nature of our arrangements, and other circumstances, compel us, most reluctantly, to materially contract their highly interesting contents. We cheerfully, however, defer much that had been previously prepared, and some matter already in type, till our next, in order to realize our anxious desire to meet the expectations of our readers, so far as it is possible, at a period which is generally believed to be, and doubtless is, fraught with consequences of a no ordinary character.

In noting the Speech of His Most Gracious Majesty, the mind, at the present moment, while perusing that important document, almost instinctively travels, with rapidity, to find the clause, bearing upon that now all-engrossing theme, Catholic emancipation; and it can hardly fail, we think, on this occasion, to be, in general, liberally gratified: and under this impression, therefore, we leave the reader, on that part of the Royal Message, entirely to form his own opinions. In certain other respects, it is most satisfactory to perceive, that the chief portions of the Speech of the King of France, relative to the political bands of His Most Christian Majesty, and his Ally of Russia, with the august Sovereign of Great Britain, are fully confirmed.—These subjects cannot fail to be distinctly noted.

Unfortunately, nothing appears to be in view respecting the state of affairs between the Government of Russia, and the Ottoman Porte, but a recurrence, (perhaps sooner than is generally anticipated,) to measures of the same dreadful tendencies, which the reader has been already made acquainted with.—And hitherto, certainly the most decided indications are before the public, that if the prospective operations should ensue, their effects will be terrible and devastating in the extreme.—Both the Sultan and the Czar avince the most determined warlike attitudes.

Catholic emancipation, as it is designated, is at length to