

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The new Parliament was opened on Thursday, the 19th of February. Great crowds of people thronged the entrances both of the House of Peers and the House of Commons.

The Lord Chancellor entered the House exactly at two o'clock. The Lords Commissioners, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Rosslyn, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Earl Jersey, and Lord Wharfedale, in their state robes, took their seats on a form placed between the Throne and the Woolsack.

There was a great rush of members on opening the doors of the Commons, at 12 o'clock. The Irish members mustered in great force. At one o'clock four hundred members were present.

ELECTION OF A SPEAKER.

After a lapse of about two minutes, profound silence prevailing throughout the house, which was crowded on the opposite side to excess, both the body of the house and the gallery on that side.

Lord Francis Egerton rose, upon the King's command, to the Commons to elect a Speaker, being delivered, & said that he rose to propose to that house an individual to fill its chair, to whom he anticipated there could be no objection, and whose election must necessarily have a majority in that house.

Mr. Ord seconded the motion. The hon. gentleman said he did so in many respects, with feelings of the deepest regret. He was at all times reluctant to address the house at all, but there was now this additional source of regret, that he was compelled, by a sense of public duty, to oppose a gentleman whose zeal and indefatigable attention to his arduous duties he had long admired.

The first testimony to which he would allude was that of the noble lord the member for the West Riding of Yorkshire, who in 1833 said that there could be but one opinion of the indefatigable attention to business and uniform courtesy which distinguished the whole tenor of the conduct of the late Speaker.

He trusted that the right hon. Baronet would not be compelled to meet indictments founded upon statements made in the Mirror of Fashion; but it had been intimated also by a publication of the names and qualities of the opposition candidates, that Sir C. Sutton was to be opposed on a great public principle—(Loud cries of hear)—and in the war cry to this effect, it had been promulgated that this principle was to give condemnation without a trial.

The address of the noble Lord occupied half an hour.

Sir Charles Burrell, from the Opposition benches seconded the motion; he was glad of the opportunity of expressing his conviction of the superior fitness of Sir M. Sutton for the office for which he had been proposed, which was known to every member of that house; but he did not mean, in lauding

these qualifications, to disparage those of the gentleman who was to be opposed to him; on the contrary, he had the highest regard for the talents of that gentleman. He supported Sir M. Sutton from the persuasion of his fitness for the office. No new man could be a proper judge of the rules and order of the house, and an old and tried one was preferable to any one new, however talented.

Mr. Denison rose amidst loud cheers—He said, that he could assure the house it was with reluctance he had intruded himself upon it on the present occasion. Nothing but a sense of duty, and the solicitation of his friends by whom he was surrounded could have induced him to come forward.

In his (Mr. Denison's) humble opinion there was no gentleman in that house better qualified to fill that high office. Not only was he eminent for his consistent support of liberal principles, but for his legal knowledge, long experience, and habits of business. He flattered himself that all those who had supported the Reform Bill in the last Parliament, or who had advocated the principles of reform upon the hustings, would do him the honor of supporting the motion with which he should conclude.

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The house was looking with extreme anxiety to the result. His Majesty had been advised to appeal to the sense of the people upon the changes which he had thought fit to make, and they were there to reply to that appeal. (Hear, hear.) In his opinion, if they placed the Right Hon. Baronet (Sir C. Sutton) in the chair, they would greatly disappoint the country.

Sir Charles Manners Sutton then rose to address the house. He was confident hon. members would forgive him if he trespassed some time on their attention, as he felt the necessity of vindicating his own honor and the honor of the house against the imputations which had been cast upon his qualifications to fill the chair.

The house having proceeded to the election, the opposition carried their candidate, Mr. Abercromby by a majority of ten votes, viz:— For Mr. Abercromby, - - - - - 316 For Sir C. M. Sutton, - - - - - 306

Majority for Mr. Abercromby, - 10

On the announcement of the division, the cheers both within and without the House were deafening beyond description.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Tuesday, Feb. 21.

This day His Majesty proceeded in state to the House of Peers, to deliver his promised Speech to the Lords and Commons. The usual ceremonies

were observed on this occasion, and, from the favorable state of the weather, an immense multitude was collected in all the avenues through which the royal cavalcade passed. There were, as might have been expected, strong manifestations of public feeling—some persons hissing and groaning, and others cheering; some of the most active of the former were apprehended by the police, and conducted before the Magistrates at Queen Square, by whom they were held to bail.

My Lords and Gentlemen—I avail myself of the earliest opportunity of meeting you in Parliament after having recurred to the sense of my people.

Upon the occurrence of this calamity, I gave immediate directions that the best provision of which the circumstances of the case would admit should be made for your present meeting; and it will be my wish to adopt such plans for the permanent accommodation of the two Houses of Parliament as shall be deemed on your joint consideration, to be the most fitting and convenient.

The single exception to the general tranquility of Europe is the civil contest which still prevails in some of the northern provinces of Spain.

I will give directions that there be laid before you Articles which I have concluded with my Allies, the King of the French, the Queen Regent of Spain and the Queen of Portugal, which are supplementary to the Treaty of April, 1834, and are intended to facilitate the complete attainment of the objects contemplated by that Treaty.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons—I have directed the Estimates for the ensuing year to be prepared, and to be laid before you without delay.

The satisfactory state of the trade and commerce of the country, and of the public revenue, fully justifies the expectation, that notwithstanding the reductions in taxation which were made in the last Session, and which, when they shall have taken full effect, will tend to diminish the existing surplus of the public revenue, there will remain a sufficient balance to meet the additional annual charge which will arise from providing the compensation granted by Parliament on account of the abolition of slavery throughout the British dominions.

I recommend to your consideration whether it may not be in your power, after providing for the exigencies of the public service, and consistently with the steadfast maintenance of the public credit, to devise a method for mitigating the pressure of these local charges which bear heavily on the owners and occupiers of land, and for distributing the burden of them more equally over other descriptions of property.

My Lords and Gentlemen—The information received from the Governors of my colonies, together with the Acts passed in execution of the law for the abolition of slavery, will be communicated to you.

There are many important subjects—some of which have already undergone partial discussion in Parliament—the adjustment of which, at an early period as is consistent with the mature consideration of them, would be of great advantage to the public interests.

Among the first in point of urgency is the state of the tithe question in Ireland, and the means of effecting an equitable and final adjustment of it.

Measures will be proposed for your consideration which will have for their respective objects—to promote the commutation of tithe in England and Wales, to improve our civil jurisprudence and the administration of justice in ecclesiastical causes, to make provision for the more effectual maintenance of ecclesiastical discipline, and to relieve those who dissent from the doctrines or discipline of the Church from the necessity of celebrating the ceremony of marriage according to its rites.

I have not yet received the Report from the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of municipal Corporations, but I have reason to believe that it will be made, and that I shall be enabled to communicate it to you at an early period.

I have appointed a Commission for considering the state of the several Dioceses in England and Wales, with reference to the amount of their revenues, and to the more equal distribution of episcopal duties; the state of the several Cathedrals and Collegiate Churches, with a view to the suggestion of such measures as may render them most conducive to the efficiency of the established church; and for devising the best method of providing for the cure of souls, with reference to the residence of the Clergy on their respective benefices.

The especial object which I have in view in the appointment of this Commission is to extend more widely the means of religious worship according to the doctrines of the Established Church, and to confirm its hold upon the veneration and affections of my people.

I feel it also incumbent upon me to call your earnest attention to the condition of the Church of Scotland, and to the means by which it may be enabled to increase the opportunities of religious worship for the poorer classes of society in that part of the United Kingdom.

It has been my duty on this occasion to direct your consideration to various important matters connected with our domestic policy.

I rely with entire confidence on your willing co-operation in perfecting all such measures as may be calculated to remove just causes of complaint, and to promote the concord and happiness of my subjects.

I rely also with equal confidence on the caution and circumspection with which you will apply yourselves to the alteration of laws which affect very extensive and complicated interests, and are interwoven with ancient usages to which the habits and feelings of my people have conformed.

I feel assured that it will be our common object, in supplying that which may be defective, or in renovating that which may be impaired, to strengthen the foundations of those institutions in Church and State, which are the inheritance and birthright of my people; and which, amidst all the vicissitudes of public affairs, have proved, under the blessing of Almighty God, the truest guarantee of their liberties, their rights and their religion.

His Majesty then retired: a royal salute was fired, and on his return to the Palace the same mixed demonstrations of popular sentiment were observable.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Feb. 24th.

Lord Sandon rose to move the customary Address. After some preliminary remarks on his own attachment to the principles of Reform, he admitted he had no confidence in Lord Melbourne's Administration, and therefore he made no inquiry about the manner in which it had been dismissed.

The Noble Lord having adverted to the doctrine of only the introducers of the Reform Bill being continued in the Government of the country, contended that his Majesty's present Government were determined to go as far as any other Government ought to go to improve the institutions of the country.

Lord Morpeth, after a speech of considerable length moved the following amendment:

To promote the concord and happiness of my subjects, in the last paragraph but two, these words be inserted:—"To assure his Majesty, that his Majesty's faithful Commons acknowledge, with grateful recollection, that the Acts for amending the representation of the people were submitted to Parliament with his Majesty's sanction, and carried into a law by his Majesty's assent; that confidently expecting to derive further advantages from those wise & necessary measures, we trust that his Majesty's Councils will be directed in a spirit of well considered and effective Reform; and that the liberal and comprehensive policy which restored to the people the right of choosing their Representatives, and which provided for the emancipation of all persons held in slavery in his Majesty's Colonies and possessions abroad, will, with the same enlarged views, place, without delay, our municipal Corporations under vigilant popular control, remove all those unfounded grievances of Protestant Dissenters, and correct those abuses in the church which impair its efficiency in England, disturb the peace of society in Ireland, and lower the character of the Establishment in both countries; to represent to his Majesty that his Majesty's faithful Commons beg leave submissively to add, that they cannot but lament that the progress of these, and other reforms, has been interrupted and endangered by the unnecessary dissolution of a Parliament earnestly intent upon the vigorous prosecution of measures to which the wishes of the people were most anxiously and justly directed." The reading of this amendment, which had been frequently interrupted by the applause of the house, was followed by loud and general cheering.

The debate was continued with great animation. Many members participated in it—among whom was Sir Robert Peel, whose speech is said to have surpassed any former effort of his in Parliament. [We shall publish this speech, and also some others, as soon as possible.] Sir Robert having resumed his seat, and the cheers having subsided, Lord John Russell rose amidst loud cries of "Adjourn! adjourn!" and said he wished to know from the Right Honorable Baronet (Sir Robert Peel) whether it was the intention of His Majesty's Government to introduce without delay, the measure of tithe adjustment in Ireland, and that of tithe commutation in England, as well as the measure for the relief of the Dissenters, and also when the report of the church commission in Ireland would be laid upon the table of the House?

Sir Robert Peel, in reply, said that the bill for the relief of the dissenters would be brought in with as little delay as possible—he might say immediately. [cheers.] With reference to the Irish tithe adjustment measure, he should also say that it would be laid before the house with as little delay as possible. The measure, with reference to education in Ireland, he would not pledge himself to bring forward so soon, but in a few weeks there could be no doubt of its introduction. He further begged to assure the noble lord, that there should be no delay in the introduction of other measures of practical reform by his Majesty's ministers. The debate was then adjourned.

On Thursday the 25th, the debate was resumed. Among the speeches in support of the address, were, Lord Stourton, Lord Stanley, Mr. Goulburn, and Mr. Baring; among those who spoke in favor of the amendment, were Mr. Ward, Captain Berkeley, Dr. Lushington, Mr. Sheil, and Lord John Russell. The last was the chief; and when he had concluded, the debate was again adjourned.

It was resumed again on the 26th, and many members of both parties participated. At 10 minutes past one o'clock in the morning, the House proceeded to divide. At two o'clock the numbers were announced as follows:—

For the amendment - - - - - 309 For the original address - - - - - 302 Majority for the amendment - - - - - 7

After the majority had returned to the House, Lord John Russell rose amidst the loudest cheers, which were continued for some minutes; after it had