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THE
SPEECH
OF THE
LORDS COMMISSIONERS
TO BOTH HOUSES OF
PARLIAMENT,

On *Tuesday, January 23, 1810.*



L O N D O N :

Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,
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SPEECH

OF THE

FORN COMMUNITIES

TO THE HOUSE OF

PARLIAMENTS

ON THE 14th JANUARY 1810



LONDON

Printed by George Ryan and Andrew Gifford, Stationers, in the Strand, 1810.

THE SPEECH, &c.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

HIS Majesty commands us to express to you His deep Regret that the Exertions of the Emperor of *Austria* against the Ambition and Violence of *France* have proved unavailing, and that His Imperial Majesty has been compelled to abandon the Contest, and to conclude a disadvantageous Peace. Although the War was undertaken by that Monarch without Encouragement on the Part of His Majesty, every Effort was made for the Assistance of *Austria* which His Majesty deemed consistent with the due Support of His Allies, and with the Welfare and Interest of His own Dominions.

AN Attack upon the Naval Armaments and Establishments in the *Scheldt*, afforded at once the Prospect of destroying a growing Force, which was daily becoming more formidable to the Security of this Country, and of diverting the Exertions of *France* from the important Objects of reinforcing Her Armies on the *Danube*, and of controuling the Spirit of Resistance in the North of *Germany*. These Considerations determined His Majesty to employ His Forces in an Expedition to the *Scheldt*.

ALTHOUGH the principal Ends of this Expedition have not been attained, His Majesty confidently hopes that Advantages, materially affecting the Security of His Majesty's Dominions in the further Prosecution of the War, will be found to result from the Demolition of the Docks and Arsenals of *Flushing*. This important Object His Majesty was enabled to accomplish, in consequence of the Reduction of the Island of *Walcheren*, by the Valour of His Fleets and Armies.

His Majesty has given Directions that such Documents and Papers should be laid before you as He trusts will afford satisfactory Information upon the Subject of this Expedition.

WE have it in Command to state to you, that His Majesty had uniformly notified to *Sweden* His Majesty's decided Wish, that in determining upon the Question of Peace or War with *France*, and other Continental Powers, She should be guided by Considerations resulting from Her own Situation and Interests: While His Majesty therefore laments that *Sweden* should have found it necessary to purchase Peace by considerable Sacrifices, His Majesty cannot complain that She has concluded it without His Majesty's Participation. It is His Majesty's earnest Wish that no Event may occur to occasion the Interruption of those Relations of Amity which it is the Desire of His Majesty and the Interest of both Countries to preserve.

WE have it further in Command to communicate to you, that the Efforts of His Majesty for the Protection of *Portugal* have been powerfully aided by the Confidence which the Prince Regent has reposed in His Majesty, and by the Co-operation of the Local Government, and of the People of that Country. The Expulsion of the *French* from *Portugal* by His Majesty's Forces under Lieutenant General Lord Viscount *Wellington*, and the glorious Victory obtained by him at *Talavera*, contributed to check the Progress of the *French* Arms in the Peninsula during the late Campaign.

His Majesty directs us to state that the *Spanish* Government, in the Name and by the Authority of King *Ferdinand* the Seventh, has determined to assemble the general and extraordinary Cortes of the Nation: His Majesty trusts that this Measure will give fresh Animation and Vigour to the Councils and the

Arms of *Spain*, and successfully direct the Energies and Spirit of the *Spanish* People to the Maintenance of their legitimate Monarchy, and to the ultimate Deliverance of their Country.

THE most important Considerations of Policy and of good Faith require that as long as this great Cause can be maintained with a Prospect of Success, it should be supported, according to the Nature and Circumstances of the Contest, by the strenuous and continued Assistance of the Power and Resources of His Majesty's Dominions; and His Majesty relies on the Aid of His Parliament in His anxious Endeavours to frustrate the Attempts of *France* against the Independence of *Spain* and *Portugal*, and against the Happiness and Freedom of those loyal and resolute Nations.

His Majesty commands us to acquaint you, that the Intercourse between His Majesty's Minister in *America* and the Government of the *United States* has been suddenly and unexpectedly interrupted. His Majesty sincerely regrets this Event: He has however received the strongest Assurances from the *American* Minister resident at this Court, that the *United States* are desirous of maintaining friendly Relations between the Two Countries. This Desire will be met by a corresponding Disposition on the Part of His Majesty.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

His Majesty has directed us to inform you, that He has ordered the Estimates for the current Year to be laid before you: His Majesty has directed them to be formed with all the Attention to Economy, which the Support of His Allies, and the Security of His Dominions will permit.—And His Majesty relies upon your Zeal and Loyalty to afford Him such Supplies as may be necessary for those essential Objects.

He commands us to express how deeply he regrets the Pressure upon His Subjects, which the protracted Continuance of the War renders inevitable.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

WE are commanded by His Majesty to express His Hopes that you will resume the Consideration of the State of the inferior Clergy, and adopt such further Measures upon this interesting Subject as may appear to you to be proper.

WE have it further in Command to state to you that the Accounts which will be laid before you of the Trade and Revenue of the Country will be found highly satisfactory.

WHATEVER temporary and partial Inconvenience may have resulted from the Measures which were directed by *France* against those great Sources of our Prosperity and Strength, those Measures have wholly failed of producing any permanent or general Effect.

THE inveterate Hostility of our Enemy continues to be directed against this Country with unabated Animosity and Violence. To guard the Security of His Majesty's Dominions, and to defeat the Designs which are meditated against Us and Our Allies, will require the utmost Efforts of Vigilance, Fortitude, and Perseverance.

IN every Difficulty and Danger His Majesty confidently trusts that He shall derive the most effectual Support, under the continued Blessing of Divine Providence, from the Wisdom of His Parliament, the Valour of His Forces, and the Spirit and Determination of His People.