

GREAT BRITAIN.

From Papers by the "Constitution."

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, September 13.

Parliament was this day prorogued by his Majesty in person, the session, which commenced on the 19th of February last, having been protracted to the unusual extent of precisely seven months.

The attendance of the ladies was not near so numerous as we have been accustomed to witness on similar occasions—a circumstance to the production of which the lateness of the season, and the cold and uncomfortable state of our weather must have greatly contributed.

A great number of foreign ministers were stationed immediately behind the Treasury Bench.

At a quarter before two o'clock the discharge of artillery and the clangour of trumpets announced the approach of His Majesty, who entered the House attended by the usual cortege. Viscount Melbourne bore the Sword of State, the Earl of Shaftesbury the cup of maintenance.

The Commons were immediately summoned to attend; and the Speaker, accompanied by a considerable number of Members, soon after appeared at the bar.

The Speaker delivered himself to the following effect:—"May it please your Majesty, we, your Majesty's faithful Commons, attend in obedience to your Majesty's commands, at the close of this unusually protracted session—a session, also, of no common ordinary circumstances. Your Majesty, in opening this session, was graciously pleased to say, that the estimates, which your Majesty had been graciously pleased to direct to be laid before the House of Commons, were lower in amount than on any former occasion within your Majesty's experience. The estimates still continue to bear the same character, evincing a general and sincere desire to advance in a steady and progressive manner the promotion of economy, so far as that object may be effected, without impairing the efficiency of the public service, towards which the most anxious attention has been directed. Arrangements, in consequence of that generous and noble act—the abolition of slavery, have rendered it necessary to effect a loan of £15,000,000, to afford that compensation which was to be awarded to the owners of slaves; and it is most consolatory and gratifying to state, that this loan was formed under circumstances and on terms which afford fresh proof of the stability and prosperity of the credit of the Empire. Unhappily, Sir, the condition of Ireland has not been such as to make it expedient to leave to the people of that portion of the empire, the unrestricted benefits of a free constitution. An act has therefore been passed by which provision is made for the prompt trial and punishment of parties in cases where disturbances occur, and powers have been granted, authorising strong measures to be adopted in places where an infraction of the peace of the country has been committed. A measure thus uniting moderate provisions with a rigorous enforcement of the law, may reasonably be expected to be efficient in commanding general respect, because its provisions are drawn up with due consideration for those against whom they may be directed, and because, being conceived in a mild but firm spirit and temper, they are better calculated to preserve the peace of the country. The means of improving the Municipal Corporations of England and Wales—of establishing an efficient police—and of forming proper local courts, have occupied much time, and we have studied with unwearied attention, how we could most successfully

adopt a plan suited to the increased intelligence, wealth, and numbers of the people, how they might most beneficially exercise the right of popular election, secure the services of those who were best qualified for the performance of public duties, and provide for the impartial administration of justice, the maintenance of order and the enforcement of the law. These are amongst the great questions considered by us in the course of this long session, and your Majesty's faithful Commons will be amply repaid for their protracted and laborious exertions if their deliberations have conducted to the real contentment of the people, and to the renewed vigour and permanent security and establishment of the important and invaluable institutions of the country, I now, on the part of your Majesty's faithful Commons, present your Majesty with the last bill of the session. It is entitled "An Act to supply a sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund, and the surplus of the ways and means, to the service of the year 1835, and to appropriate the supply granted in the present session of Parliament," to which we, with all humility, pray your Majesty's Royal assent."

The Appropriation Bill, the Capital Punishments Bill, the Fines and Recoveries Bill, the Letters Patent Bill, and the Grand Juries (Ireland) Bill, then received the Royal assent in the usual form.

His Majesty (who looked remarkably well, healthy, and ruddy) then delivered the following most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I find with great satisfaction that the state of the public business enables me to relieve you from further attendance, and from the pressure of those duties which you have performed with so much zeal and assiduity.

"I received from all Foreign Powers satisfactory assurances of their desire to maintain with me the most friendly understanding, and I look forward with confidence to the preservation of the general peace, which has been, and will be, the object of my constant solicitude.

"I lament that the civil contest in the Northern Provinces of Spain has not yet been brought to a termination; but, taking a deep interest in the welfare of the Spanish monarchy, I shall continue to direct to that quarter my most anxious attention, in concert with the three Powers with whom I concluded the treaty of quadruple alliance; and I have, in furtherance of the objects of that treaty, exercised the power vested in me by the Legislature, and have granted permission to my subjects to engage in the service of the Queen of Spain.

"I have concluded with Denmark, Sardinia and Sweden, fresh conventions, calculated to prevent the traffic in African Slaves; I hope soon to receive the ratification of a similar treaty which has been signed with Spain.

"I am engaged in negotiations with other Powers in Europe and in South America for the same purpose, and I trust that ere long the united efforts of all civilized nations will suppress and extinguish this traffic.

"I perceive with entire approbation that you have directed your attention to the regulation of Municipal Corporations in England and Wales, and I have cheerfully given my assent to the bill which you have passed for that purpose. I cordially concur in this important measure, which is calculated to allay discontent, to promote peace and union, and to procure for those communities the advantages of responsible government.

"I greatly rejoice that the internal condition of Ireland has been such as to have permitted you to substitute for the necessary severity of the law, which has been suffered to expire, enactments of a milder character. No part of my duty is more grateful to my feelings than

the mitigation of a penal statute in any case in which it can be effected consistently with the maintenance of order and tranquility.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"I thank you for the readiness with which you have voted the supplies.

"You have provided not only for the expenses of the year, and for the interest upon the large sum awarded to the owners of slaves in my colonial possessions, but also for several unexpected and peculiar claims upon the justice and liberality of the nation.

"It is most gratifying to observe that not only have these demands been met without additional taxation, but that you have made some further progress in reducing the burdens of my people.

"I am enabled to congratulate you that the terms upon which the loan for the compensation to the proprietors of slaves has been obtained afford conclusive evidence of the flourishing state of public credit, and of that general confidence which is the result of a determination to fulfil the national engagements and to maintain inviolable the public faith.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I know that I may securely rely upon your loyalty and patriotism, and I feel confident that in returning to your respective counties, and in resuming those functions which you discharge with so much advantage to the community, you will recommend to all classes of your countrymen obedience to the law, attachment to the constitution, and a spirit of temperate amendment, which, under Divine Providence, are the surest means of preserving the tranquility and increasing the prosperity which this country enjoys.

The LORD SPEAKER, (Lord DENMAN,) by His Majesty's command, said—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"It is his Majesty's Royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued on Tuesday, the 10th day of November next, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the 10th day of November next."

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Sept. 10.

The Speaker took the Chair at one o'clock.

Mr. Shaw presented petitions from Malla-hide and another place, in the county of Dublin, against the Irish Church Bill.

Mr. Blainie presented petitions from the principal Landholders and farmers of five districts in Cumberland, complaining of the impolitic and injurious effect of the various restrictions upon the different processes of malting, and also complaining of agricultural distress. The hon. member said, he had spoken with regard to the first matter mentioned in those petitions to the Chancellor, of the Exchequer, and that the right hon. gentleman had promised to investigate the subject for the purpose of seeing if he could afford any relief.

The house was occupied for nearly an hour in receiving petitions and by members giving notice of motions for next session.

MESSAGE FROM HIS MAJESTY.

The Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod rapped three times at the door, and advancing to the table with the usual reverences, said—

"Mr. Speaker, his Majesty commands the attendance of this hon. house immediately in the House of Peers."

The Speaker then quitted the chair, and followed by the members went to obey the summons of the Black Rod.—(See Lords' report.)

In about a quarter of an hour the Speaker returned, and taking his seat at the table read his Majesty's most gracious speech, the members standing in the meanwhile, and having concluded, the members severally shook hands