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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1856.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, February 5, 1856.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Her Majesty will hold Levees at St. James's Palace, on the following days, at two o'clock:

- Wednesday, the 20th instant.
- Wednesday, the 27th instant.
- Wednesday the 12th of March next.

REGULATIONS TO BE OBSERVED AT THE QUEEN'S LEVEES AT ST. JAMES'S-PALACE.

The Noblemen and Gentlemen, who purpose to attend Her Majesty's Levees, at St. James's-Palace, are requested to bring with them two large cards, with their names *clearly written* thereon, one to be left with the Queen's Page in Attendance in the Ante-Room, and the other to be delivered to the Lord Chamberlain, who will announce the name to Her Majesty.

Those Gentlemen who are to be presented are hereby informed, it is absolutely necessary that their names, with the name of the Nobleman or Gentleman who is to present them, should be delivered at the Lord Chamberlain's Office, *before twelve o'clock* on the *Monday previous* to each Levee, or upon any *earlier* day between the hours of *eleven and four*, in order that they may be submitted for the Queen's approbation; it being Her Majesty's command, that no presentation shall be made at the Levees but in conformity with the above regulations.

It is particularly requested, that in every case the names be *very distinctly written* upon the cards to be delivered to the Lord Chamberlain, in order that there may be no difficulty in announcing them to the Queen.

The state apartments will not be open for the reception of Company coming to Court, until half-past one o'clock.

Notice is hereby given, that all persons having petitions or addresses to present to Her Majesty at the Levee, are to send a card (having on it their names, a statement of the object of such Petitions or Addresses, and the names of the persons from whom they come), to the Lord Chamberlain's Office, *before twelve o'clock*, on the *Monday previous* to each Levee; and that two other cards, having on them precisely what is written upon that sent to the Lord Chamberlain's Office, are to be taken to the Levee; one of the two cards to be delivered to the Page in the Ante-Room, and the other to the Lord Chamberlain, who will read its contents to Her Majesty;

and, on these occasions, no other statement is to be addressed to Her Majesty.

A Deputation to present an Address is not to exceed four persons.

Buckingham-Palace, January 31, 1856.

THIS day Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Albert, proceeded in state from Buckingham-Palace to the House of Peers, where she arrived soon after two o'clock; and was received, on alighting from her state coach, by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Privy Seal, Sir Augustus Clifford, Bart., C.B., Deputy Great Chamberlain (in the absence of the Lord Willoughby de Eresby), and the Treasurer of the Household, Garter King of Arms, and the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, and proceeded to the State Robing-room in the customary manner.

Her Majesty was there robed, and the procession moved into the House in the usual order; —the sword of state was borne by the Earl Granville, Lord President of the Council, the cap of maintenance by the Marquess of Winchester, and the crown by the Marquess of Lansdowne, K.G.

Her Majesty being seated on the Throne, and His Royal Highness Prince Albert on a Chair on the left side of the Cloth of Estate, the Great Officers of State and others standing on the right and left, James Pulman, Esq., Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a message from Her Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their immediate attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, Her Majesty was pleased to deliver the following most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since the close of the last session of Parliament the arms of the Allies have achieved a signal and important success. Sebastopol, the great stronghold of Russia in the Black Sea, has yielded to the persevering constancy and to the daring bravery of the Allied Forces.

The naval and military preparations for the ensuing year have necessarily occupied my serious attention; but while determined to omit no effort which could give vigour to the operations of the war, I have deemed it my duty not to decline any overtures which might reasonably afford a prospect of a safe and honourable peace. Accordingly, when the Emperor of Austria lately offered to myself and to my august Ally the Emperor of the