

metropolis, to the employment of the gens d'arms, and troops of the line, instead of the national guard, which, he contended, was the only force that could be constitutionally employed for the suppression of riots; and, had their services been resorted to, the shedding of blood, he was convinced, would have been averted.

Mr. D. Guillard said, that for thirty years he had not seen any assembly of the people dispersed by troops of armed soldiers, until within a few days. Paris resembled a captured city—troops stationed in various quarters, and posts fixed for their attendance. He felt assured that an exasperation had been excited by the appearance of the regular force.

Mr. Martin de Geray stated, having heard a noise in the street—Riche Pause, where he resided, he put his head out of the window, and beheld a troop of dragoons galloping along the streets, and brandishing their swords. Soon after a wounded man was carried into one of the neighboring Cafes—he was an unfortunate old man. There was a man apprehended who was accused of having excited the tumult, but it was soon found out that he was a spy, employed to raise disturbances; for he was perceived, on his apprehension, to give a friendly squeeze to the hand of one of the gens d'arms, and some seconds after was allowed to escape quietly from amidst the guards.

A voice from the left—Yes, the agents of the police excite the disorders.

M. Demarcay gave a detail of what had happened to him and to M. Corcelles, on leaving the Chamber on the preceding day. Two persons who met them, asked the news of the sitting, and they stopped for a few minutes to relate the facts, when a platoon of cavalry dispersed the party, under the authority of the order of the police, which required that three persons should not be seen together in the streets.

M. De Ambrugeac defended the conduct of the military, who, in his opinion, exhibited great moderation. The groups they dispersed were shouting 'Long live the Emperor.' The national guard, although indisputably brave, were not equal to what was expected from their services. This had been seen on two remarkable occasions—the 20th of June and the 10th of August. Without the employment of regular troops, the Chamber might be assured that it would be impossible to re-establish or to preserve tranquility.

M. Bignon—Are we at Constantinople, then?

M. Mechin declared that the metropolis was treated like a besieged town. He was willing to do justice to the Duke of Tarentum, and also to the troops employed by the police—but he contended that accusation should attach to those ministers who called in the regular troops. It would have been better to have availed themselves of the assistance of the national guard, as it was better to arrest than to kill.

M. Casimir Perrier, while rendering full justice to the royal guard, complained that violence was used in dispersing that portion of the people who merely stood up for shelter from the rain, under the arcade of La Rue de Rivoli.

The Keeper of the Seals insisted that the excesses which had lately been perpetrated were the acts of a single party, leagued in opposition to authority which was bound to disperse them.

M. Benj. Constant commenced a reply in so intemperate a manner, that the Chamber refused to hear him further. The discussion on the amendment of the electoral projet was shortly resumed, and further adjourned.

On Thursday all was calm in the Chamber of Deputies. The proceedings commenced with the debate on the articles of the electoral projet, which was maintained, with perfect regularity, to the usual hour of adjournment, when the close of this interminable discussion was loudly called for by the right and centre of the Chamber. It was, however, rejected, and again postponed to the following day.

## England.

### THE QUEEN.

Extract from the Debate on the King's Message, in the House of Commons, June 7.

Lord Castlereagh—In rising to call the attention of the house to the consideration of his Majesty's most gracious message, he was certain they would feel as deeply as he did the extremely painful and delicate duty involved upon him.—The present was one of the most distressing and momentous public questions which had ever been agitated in Parliament. He assured the house, that if he had not been persuaded, in common with his colleagues, that every means which prudence and a conscientious regard to the illustrious personages could have devised have been exercised; unless he had conscientiously satisfied himself that those difficulties which surrounded the case were, such as would require to be thoroughly removed, and unless he was convinced that in justice to both parties, the forbearance which had hitherto been adopted, was no longer practicable, he should have risen to make the observations which he would feel necessary to state on this important subject, with more burdened feelings than pressed upon him on the present occasion. And here he felt it his duty to protest in *limine* against the assertion, which had been crudely thrown out, that his Majesty's ministers had undertaken to act the part of prosecutors; and he trusted that when the house adverted to the words of the message itself, that it would perceive that no communication had ever been made in more gracious terms—(laughter from the opposition)—in terms which shewed, that the king had thrown himself candidly upon the great councils of the nation, and in circumstances equally interesting to him and to them, had asked them to review the acts of the crown, and to

give to him the advice which the particular situation in which he was placed, the interest of the country, and the constitution of the Kingdom, required them to give to their sovereign.—All the information possessed upon the subject would be laid before the committee, and of course that information, whether contained in written documents or not, would be solely viewed as to its respectability and character. He now applied to the intended course of proceeding, but before entering upon it, could not help expressing his astonishment, considering the able legal advice which her Majesty was known to have, that it could have been impressed on her mind, that the slightest imputation could have been cast on that illustrious personage, or on the meanest subject in the realm; or that they should be referred to any secret tribunal, or to one, where the fullest communication could not be sifted, and sifted with that publicity which was the distinguishing characteristic of British justice—(Hear, hear.) He was astonished it could have occurred to any one, that her Majesty would not have full power, in the event of any necessity for a trial existing, to examine witnesses minutely—to search their character, and weigh the value of their testimony—or that she would be sent to trial without all those safeguards of general liberty and individual protection, which would afford her, together with that publicity necessary to the ends of justice, a full opportunity of cross-examining evidence, rebutting testimony, and impeaching the character of the witnesses, with a degree of liberty which her Majesty must share, not in precedence, but in common with every subject in the country. Should the committee report that there was no thing to impeach the conduct of the illustrious party whom they assist with their advice, and that there was no occasion to proceed farther, this happy decision would receive no additional recommendation, either in the estimation of her Majesty or in that of the public, from having been come to in conjunction with the two learned gentlemen, who held the important and honorable office of her Majesty's legal advisers. On the other hand, if the report stated that there was enough of grave matter laid before the committee to advise some ulterior proceeding, they would be placed in the most embarrassing dilemma between their private and their public duty. If they concurred in the opinion that there was sufficient ground for ulterior proceedings, how much more painful would such a decision prove to the house, when sanctioned by two honorable and learned gentlemen, who stood in such a situation. If they thought it their duty to protest against the decision of the committee, under what disadvantages would they not labor at being among the number of those through whom that decision had been formed. The transactions of the last forty-eight hours furnished a pretty sufficient comment on what might have been expected from a negotiation, as it was called, since it was seen, that the illustrious personage, who was the subject of this discussion, was so little under the counsel of the honorable and learned gentleman (her legal adviser) that by his own confession, those documents connected with the arrangements lately proposed, which had been put forth, had been so published without his consent. He (Mr. Brougham) had felt it due to himself to declare, that he had not advised that publication, and to admit that it was garbled, imperfect, and untrue. Under whatever lamentable, and he might add criminal advice, that publication had taken place, it was evident that the object of it was to appeal to the lower orders of the people—(Hear, hear, hear!)—and the purposes which it was intended to answer could be concealed from no one who did not wilfully shut his eyes. If any feeling but regret could have place in his breast at this moment, he should rejoice that, from the circumstance of the case, no doubt could exist as to the course which Ministers had taken on this melancholy occasion; that the illustrious personage herself had been fully apprised of their resolution; and that the conduct of Ministers, free from all disguise, had made her distinctly understand the consequences to which the step that she had resolved upon must inevitably and immediately lead. (Hear, hear, hear.) The House were aware that under her marriage settlement, in the lamentable event of the death of his Majesty, she would be entitled to an income of 50,000*l.* a year as widow of the King.—He had therefore thought it desirable that an annuity to that amount should be granted now, that the subject might never again come before Parliament. This, then, had been proposed to the Queen, and he had no hesitation in saying, that when proposed, the only condition coupled with it was the stipulation that she should remain abroad. Now, with respect to the proposition that the Queen should give up her title and all the rights attached to her situation, he did not know that such a proposition had been made, or could be made. Nothing had been proposed to her but an arrangement by which it was hoped that all debates of a hostile nature might be avoided. It was understood that no proposition to the Queen to surrender her rights as Queen, could be valid without interference of the Legislature, and without an act of Parliament. Ministers had been anxious that such measures be adopted that should prevent all future conflicts, both at home and abroad, between the illustrious parties. It was obvious, that if her Majesty resided in England, both the King and herself would frequently be exposed to much painful embarrassment, and it was but too evident that there was in this country no lack of disposition to turn such circumstances to answer the most mischievous purposes—(Hear, hear.) Whatever had, through warmth of feeling, been propagated on this subject, either abroad or within those walls, he trusted that it would be obviously proved to all, that Government had been most anxious to avoid this altercation, and

most anxious to soften down the distress which such a step as that meditated by the Queen was likely to create in every delicate and feeling mind. Every thing, he assured the House, had been done to avoid coming before a tribunal, which ought never to have had cognizance of the case, and there was no sacrifice which they were not desirous to advise the Crown to make, in order to avoid this crisis, consistently with its character and dignity.

Mr. Brougham assured the House the noble Lord opposite had not addressed them on the very grave and momentous subject before this House with more pain than himself. He would have the house first to know that this illustrious Lady coveted not the countenance of those to whom the noble Lord's speech had so forcibly alluded. Her sagacity, which yielded to none in that House, and her extreme propriety of mind, rendered it little likely she should have suffered either to be defeated by adopting fallacious advice. Her condition, however, was such as entitled her to their warmest sympathy. She had been long estranged from her family, and that intimate association which was most calculated to cherish the principles and habits of domestic life. He called upon the House to bear in mind her peculiar situation. A female, a foreigner, unprotected, and nearly friendless, who had sustained a six years' almost involuntary exile from England. Bearing these things in recollection, he thought they would not very severely blame her if she had fallen into the error of listening to the honest and well meant recommendations of a friendly individual who had desired to serve her, tho' he (Mr. Brougham) could never characterize those recommendations as those of absolute wisdom—(Laughter.)—Was it on papers and letters, pieces of evidence, called evidence, brought from beyond the Alps by a secret Commission, sent out by God knows whom, but now well known for what purpose, viz.—to save the Committee of the House of Commons the trouble of examining evidence. He stated himself to be utterly ignorant of the contents of the paper to be laid before the Committee; he had only seen the outside of that green bag, nothing more, and all his objections against it was, that the whole of the evidence was in that bag, and that there was not a living witness to be examined. He knew that some one would be called to prove that this was the signature of such a one—a gentleman, perhaps, who had been sent out to make a residence of ten months at Milan—a member of the learned profession, who till that ill fated hour, stood high in the reputation of the world, and the esteem of his friends. That this individual should thus have lowered himself, he confessed had both surprised and pained him. He begged pardon for the expression he was using, but they were canvassing so freely the character of illustrious individuals, that minor considerations must yield.

He must again recur to the unpleasant subject, deprecating as he did the individual and the office. To go, as he did, and sit prying into the most secret actions of domestic life in a foreign country; seeking for information in the filthy wine-houses; joining in familiar confabulation with the bargemen of the lake, porters, cast-off servants of mistresses; those detestable characters who, to the credit of courts of law, scarcely ever showed their faces within them, without having them stamped with infamy—to sit, he repeated, writing down all the tittle-tattle of these reprobate characters. Before this, he had thought better of human nature, more of the merits of professional honor (Hear!) In saying this, he was saying what he felt, at the degradation of a professional brother. Such low offices, he acknowledged, must be performed; but then let them be done by hands that could not be sullied by any species of baseness. Let no man dip a finger in such filth, who was not born to degrade the human species. If the committee should only turn out their report, couched in the mildest terms of affirmation, which it was in the power of the noble lord's oily rhetoric to frame; (laughter!) so long as it only said yes to the charge, that man's character would be for ever blasted. It was in vain to liken this tribunal to a Grand Jury. If ministers thought her Majesty guilty on the report of the commissioner, let them act upon that assurance—(Cheers.) He strongly deprecated the course of ministers on this occasion; they wished, by the appointment of the committee, to screen themselves behind names better than their own; to seek shelter from the public gaze; to cover themselves up from the public eye. But they had of their own responsibility come down to the house with this message, and they ought to face it as men, and as ministers should do. Not only the interests of the royal family, but the peace, the well being and the morals of the country were involved in the present question. If the proposed inquiry was once entered upon, who could presume to say where it would stop; who, though they were on the dreadful brink, could venture to point out the gulph which was yawning beneath them—(Hear, hear!) Those who counselled the crown to the present measure, ought to weigh well those circumstances, by which it was likely to be attended. Those who recollected what took place on a former occasion, would bear in mind the nature of the inquiry then entered into; and from that they might judge to what that now proposed would extend. They would have to inquire—not into the character of the Queen—not into the treatment she had met with—not into matters with which the house was connected, or of which it wished to be informed—but they would have brought up the whole private history of certain illustrious individuals. He did not say that these matters would be forced upon the public eye. Let them look, as he before stated, to what had taken place a few years ago. On that

occasion public business was suspended—every feeling on any other subject was suspended—the political gossip and scandal of the day became stale—party spirit ceased, and even political rancor no longer existed—the general topic of the year being the private life and history of the first subjects in the country—(Hear, hear!) He must indeed be a sagacious man, who could, from the commencement, point out the end of the proposed inquiry; he must indeed be a man of miraculous sagacity who could do so. He did not believe that the noble lord (Castlereagh) himself would venture securely upon such a prediction; he was sure that no other man could venture to state how the conflicting interests of the parties would end, or to what extent it would be carried. He knew that many persons would look upon this question with the best feelings; many well-meaning persons would, perhaps, advise it; but there were others who would view it in a different light—persons who were so much like abid animals, that there was more danger to be apprehended from their saliva than their tooth. If this inquiry were entered upon, there were many who, perhaps, would view it compassionately, but would blame the parties who had set it on foot. There were some who, in certain cases, would feel themselves bound by professional ties to regard nothing but the interests of their clients. He did not allude to members of parliament, and therefore not to himself, or his honorable colleague, (Mr. Denman,) but to other persons, into whose hands the affairs of his royal client might be entrusted. What the consequences of this might be, he would not trust himself to say; those who recollected what took place eleven years ago, would be able to form an idea of that to which he alluded. In such cases the advocate had but one thing to look to, the interests of his client; and any professional man would be ruined, disgraced—in a word, he would be fit for the tribunal of Milan, who neglected those interests, or took any course detrimental to them. He said he must be a bold man who would pretend to point out the issue or probable duration of the proposed inquiry; but he must be a bolder man still, who would rashly plunge the country into a state of irritation and confusion, while there remained a possibility of adjusting matters in a private and amicable manner—[Hear, hear, hear.] For God's sake, then—for the sake of the country—for the sake of those who deluded themselves—of those whose memories betrayed them—for the sake of the people of England—for the sake of those who have wives and daughters to protect, he implored them to pause before they decided upon this question.—Let them recollect what took place eleven years ago, when no man could open one of the daily papers, without turning with disgust from the scenes it described. The morality of the country was at stake: Let the house then pause, and inquire whether there was not yet some means of avoiding a proceeding pregnant with such evils to the country—[Hear, hear.] He put this to the house, as they valued their honor, as they valued all that was dearest to them, as they valued the existence of England as a nation—(Loud cries of hear, hear, from all parts of the house.)

There were two instances which he wished to point out, respecting the conduct of Hanoverian ministers towards her Majesty while in Italy.—The Baron Ompteda, who was on his way to Rome, as Hanoverian minister, was most graciously received by her Majesty. He insinuated himself into her house—he partook largely of her hospitality for several months. Notwithstanding this attention and kindness, this honorable baron was detected, not only in spying into the conduct of her Majesty, not only in bribing and corrupting her servants to give him information, but in having hired a blacksmith to make a key to open her private desk, in order to investigate her papers. Fortunately, however, those papers so taken, showed this gentleman was on the wrong scent, as in fact they proved her innocence instead of her guilt. A young gentleman, a lieutenant in the navy, then about her Majesty's person, feeling for the honor of his royal mistress, challenged the honorable baron; the latter, however, retreated to Milan, where he took up so secret a position, as to be with difficulty found out. Driven from this retreat, he made a backward movement, and hid himself in the mountains—here again he was followed by the gallant lieutenant, whose generous ardor surmounted all obstacles—but while an engagement was daily expected, the Baron Ompteda was kicked out of the Austrian territories; not being observed, for having acted as a spy upon the Queen—not for the crime of having forced her Majesty's private papers—but for having refused to fight a duel when openly called upon—[Hear, hear.] Her Majesty had commanded him to call for a full, fair, open investigation. The speedier the beginning of it was, the more completely would she be gratified—the more ample it was, the more decided would be her satisfaction. But that it would be a short investigation, he, who knew the course of such proceedings, felt it to be impossible. Therefore, no time was to be lost; for, if the investigation went on, they might expect to sit to no ordinary period of the session. But in calling for inquiry, her Majesty protested strenuously and decidedly against a secret one—[Hear, hear, hear.]

Mr. Canning said, that in all the discussions which had taken place before this crisis, he had looked to the situation of the queen, as to that of the nearest and dearest friend. To his sovereign he owed the duty of a private counsellor—to her Majesty he owed every esteem and respect. The wish nearest his heart was, that this extremity could have been avoided—his next wish was that her Majesty might come out of this inquiry with honor to herself and satisfaction to her friends. An honorable member (Mr. Tierney) had said, that no compromise could take place without injuring the king's honor, or the insulting the queen. Another honorable member