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MEMOIRS

BY

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR ROBERT PEELE,

BART., M.P., &c.

PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES OF HIS PAPERS,

LORD MAHON (NOW EARL STANHOPE),

AND

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

PART II.—THE NEW GOVERNMENT; 1834-5.

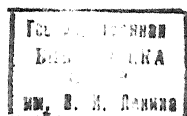
PART III.—REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS; 1845-6.



LONDON:

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1857.



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P R E F A C E.

THE Second Part of the Memoirs by Sir Robert Peel as here presented to the public, is derived from his MS. without the omission of a single word, except in the case of one name which has been left in blank.

In the Third Part, however, the omission of several passages will be apparent even to the most cursory reader.

The lamentable event which closed the career of Sir Robert Peel, and placed these papers in the hands of the Editors, at a period so much nearer to the transactions related in them than Sir Robert Peel could have contemplated at the time of his bequest, renders obligatory a corresponding degree of care in observing the cautions imposed by the terms of the trust. In the Third Part, therefore, referring to occurrences which have taken place within a few years only from the present time, those terms, and the manifest propriety of the case, have made it the duty of the Editors, as they conceive, to omit, wholly or in part, some letters and some paragraphs which were included in the original MS. They hope that, by short explanatory notes, they have succeeded in preventing any obscurity or interruption of the narrative; and they also hope

that the reader will approve their decision rather to publish the Memoir now, with some necessary omissions, than to wait indefinitely for the prospect of being able at some distant time to print the whole.

Should there be, on the contrary, some persons who, notwithstanding these omissions, think that too many confidential letters have been here disclosed, the Editors may be allowed to state, that in no case have they thought themselves justified in publishing for the first time communications from any still surviving statesman without his full consent being first obtained.

Finally, the Editors desire to observe, that in giving to the world the Memoirs as written by Sir Robert Peel, they are merely seeking to fulfil his wishes and intentions. Any further publication of his papers must rest on their responsibility alone. It is now their intention to select from the correspondence between Sir Robert Peel and several of his colleagues and friends, a series, especially of such letters as, while written with all the unreserve of personal regard or official connection, may yet at this time be given to the world without any breach of public or of private confidence.

The Editors propose that the new volumes should correspond in size and type with those already published, so as to form in fact a sequel to them.

S.

E. C.

LONDON, *February*, 1857.

PART II.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT

1834-5.