

(Entered)



The Edinburgh Gazette.

Published by Authority.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1857.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, June 20, 1857.

THIS day the Archbishop of Canterbury, accompanied by the Bishops and Clergy of the Province, waited upon Her Majesty to present the following Address; which was received by Her Majesty on the Throne:

To The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

Madam,

WE, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled, approach your Majesty with the assurance of our loyal and affectionate attachment to your Majesty's Throne and Person.

We feel it to be a ground of much thankfulness to Almighty God, that in offering this our accustomed Address, we are able to join with it our humble congratulations on the blessings which it has pleased Him to continue to your Majesty, and to your Illustrious Consort, blessings which are happily shared by the Country at large, as well in regard to its internal tranquillity and welfare as to the restoration of peace among the European Powers; at the same time we would desire to offer our respectful condolence upon the loss of that excellent Princess, whose decease marks the removal of a generation of your Majesty's Illustrious House.

Since the last occasion when we were permitted to address your Majesty, several subjects of much interest to the National Church have been brought under our consideration. Amongst these, we humbly conceive that none calls more urgently for our attention than the best mode of extending the blessings of the Church to the increasing population, which has far outgrown the actual provision both of the number of Clergy and of the funds available for their support. Whilst we deeply regret this spiritual destitution, we thankfully acknowledge the measure of private liberality which has been directed towards the purpose of conveying the means of grace to our population at home, and to those Colonial Possessions of your Majesty which are so widely extending the laws, the language, the liberties, and, as we trust, the religion, of our native land.

It is a gratifying reflection that through private munificence, with little assistance from private sources, your Majesty's reign has been signalized by the erection of new sees in every quarter of the

globe, from Africa to New Zealand, from Victoria to Rupert's Land.

We have observed with satisfaction that your Majesty has been pleased to appoint a Commission to consider the boundaries of some of the Dioceses in England, and we earnestly pray that their enquiries and recommendations may be so directed as to promote the efficiency and well-being of our Church.

In the promotion of Public Education, a question which intimately concerns us as Ministers of Religion, we thankfully acknowledge the liberal aid afforded us by Public Grants. The attention directed towards the instruction of the young is a marked feature of the present age. But we deeply deplore the difficulties which in too many cases induce the labouring classes to remove their children from school at a very early age, before they have received the full advantages of a sound education, and been properly instructed in their duty towards God and Man. It is difficult to suggest the remedy. But if it should please your Majesty, in accordance with the spirit of that general summons in your Majesty's writ, "to treat of certain difficult and urgent affairs concerning your Majesty, the security and defence of the Church of England, and the peace and tranquillity, public good of your kingdom, and your subjects of the same," to commit to our special deliberation this or any other questions affecting the interests of our Holy Religion, or the usefulness of the Church, we trust that we shall not be found unmindful of the solemn character of the functions we are called to discharge; and shall conduct our proceedings in a spirit of reverent dependence upon the divine blessing, and with the diligence which would become us in obeying your Majesty's commands.

Hitherto the shortness of time given to our consultations has in a great measure frustrated the advantages which we humbly trust would result if fuller opportunity were afforded for ascertaining the opinions of the Clergy by discussion in Convocation.

Meanwhile, we assure your Majesty that any difficulties which may impede our endeavours to convey the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, as the ruling principle of life, to every parish, and to every individual in the land, rather serve to stimulate than restrain our exertions; and we have the encouragement of

