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WINDSOR CASTLE, April 9, 1866.

**T**HIS day the following Address from the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of New Windsor, was handed by the Mayor to Her Majesty, who was pleased to receive the same very graciously:—

To The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

*May it please your Majesty,*

WE, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the loyal and ancient borough of New Windsor, have ventured to approach your Majesty for the purpose of expressing our heartfelt sorrow at the loss your Majesty has sustained by the lamented decease of Leopold, King of the Belgians, who was connected with your Royal House by so many ties of kindred and friendship.

We cannot but feel that by the death of King Leopold your Majesty has lost a wise, experienced, and faithful counsellor, your people a friend who was always deeply interested in their welfare and happiness, and the world a Sovereign who by his wisdom, sagacity, and singleness of purpose, secured universal confidence, and became the great arbitrator and peacemaker between contending Nations.

We humbly pray that your Majesty may in all your losses and trials be sustained and comforted by the Divine favour.

Given under the Common Seal of the said Borough, at a Meeting of the Council thereof, held on the 22d day of December 1865.



JOHN JONES, Mayor.

At the Court at Windsor, the 12th day of March 1866.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 25th year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty to issue Commissions to the Officers of Her Majesty's Land Forces and Royal Marines, and to Adjutants and Quartermasters of the Militia and Volunteer Forces, without affixing Her Royal sign-manual thereto," after setting forth therein

that every officer appointed or promoted by Her Majesty in Her Land Forces or Marines, and every Adjutant or Quartermaster in Her Militia or Volunteer Forces, receives a Commission from Her Majesty with Her Royal sign-manual thereon, and that it was expedient to regulate from time to time the mode of authenticating the said Commissions granted by Her Majesty, it was enacted that it should be lawful for Her Majesty, by Order in Council, from time to time, as occasion might require, to direct that all or any Commissions for officers prepared or to be prepared under the authority of Her Majesty's Royal sign-manual might be afterwards issued without Her Royal sign-manual, but having thereon, in the case of Her Majesty's Land Forces, except as thereafter mentioned, the signatures of the Commander-in-Chief or the General Commanding-in-Chief, and of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State; and in the case of the Royal Marines, of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; and in the case of Military Chaplains, Commissariat and Store Officers, and of Adjutants and Quartermasters in the Militia and Volunteer Forces, of one of Her Majesty's said Principal Secretaries; and that every such Commission issued and signed in pursuance of such Order in Council should be conclusive evidence that the officer named in any such Commission had been appointed or promoted by Her Majesty to the rank or office named therein:

And whereas by an Order in Council bearing date the seventh day of June one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, directions were given as to the issuing and signing of certain Commissions, being other Commissions than such as are mentioned and referred to in this present Order:

And whereas Her Majesty hath declared Her will and pleasure that any first Commissions which, at the date of this Order, have been authorised under Her Majesty's Royal sign-manual, but have not been signed by Her Majesty, shall be issued and signed under the provisions of this Order:

Now, therefore, in further pursuance of the above-recited Act, and in execution of the power thereby in Her Majesty in Council vested, Her Majesty is pleased, with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and doth hereby order—

1. That where, prior to the date of this Order, any person has been first appointed to an office in Her Majesty's Land Forces or Marines under

