

which our ancestors conceived to be essentially necessary for the stability of the Protestant establishment.

Having thus humbly submitted to Your Royal Highness our sentiments on this momentous subject, we further beg leave humbly to express to Your Royal Highness our perfect reliance on the wisdom and firmness of Your Royal Highness, to whom we confidently look up as the guardian and protector of our unrivalled constitution.

We also humbly request, that Your Royal Highness will be pleased to receive our dutiful and sincere expressions of thankfulness to Your Royal Highness for the continuance of his Grace the Duke of Richmond in the government of this country, whose temperate, firm, and just administration has secured him the gratitude and affection of all His Majesty's loyal subjects in Ireland.

*William Law*, Chairman of the Donegal Meeting.

[*Transmitted by His Grace the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

WE, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Protestant inhabitants of the King's County, convened by the High Sheriff, beg leave with all humility, to lay at your Royal Highness's feet, the expressions of our gratitude for the great wisdom and ability with which your Royal Highness's councils have been conducted, since you have assumed the government of this United Kingdom; and while we unfeignedly lament the melancholy cause which has called your Royal Highness to this, your present arduous situation, we cannot, at the same time refrain from mentioning that in being deprived of the superintending wisdom of so great and good a King, we are only suffered to deplore the calamity of the individual, for your Royal Highness's paternal care has prevented us from feeling the public loss.

Your adherence to the same wise councils which have rendered this kingdom powerful and respected in every quarter of the earth, and which have given us peace and security at home, while the states of the continent have been falling under the domination of France, has been productive of a succession of splendid exploits since the commencement of your Royal Highness's Government, which are not to be surpassed during any similar period in the most glorious times of our history. Under your auspices, our island is improving more rapidly than it has done in any former time, and increasing daily in wealth and prosperity, far beyond what the fondest hopes could have anticipated. We regret, however, to observe, that in this happy order of things, our Roman Catholic fellow subjects are alone dissatisfied, in consequence of the remaining disabilities to which they are still subjected by the laws of this country. We beg leave to assure your Royal Highness, that we have no wish for a monopoly of power; we have no desire to exclude any portion of our fellow subjects, of whatever religious persuasion, from enjoying the privileges of our happy constitution. All we solicit is a continuance of protection for those civil and religious liberties, which, since the Revolution, we and our

ancestors have uninterruptedly enjoyed, and for the preservation of which, your Royal Highness's illustrious family was called to the throne of these realms. Assured that the same beneficent sentiment towards us, which has always animated the bosoms of your royal ancestors, will also continue to influence your deliberations, we confide that your Royal Highness will never consent to any change in the safeguards we at present possess, which shall not to your wisdom and foresight appear to be accompanied by the most perfect security, for these our invaluable and dearest birthrights.

(Signed)

*Geo. W. J. Drought,*  
High Sheriff and Chairman.

[*Transmitted by His Grace the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

*May it please your Royal Highness,*

WE the undersigned Protestant Noblemen, Gentlemen, Clergy, and Freeholders of the County of Tipperary, beg leave to present to your Royal Highness, the assurance of our sincere and zealous attachment to your Royal Highness's person and Government. While we, in common with His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, deplore the affliction that has deprived us of the paternal care of our revered Sovereign, we have the consolation to observe, that in the hands of your Royal Highness the executive power has been exercised with the same faithful regard for the dignity of the Crown, and the welfare of the people.

Called to the administration of affairs at a period of no ordinary peril and difficulty, your Royal Highness, solicitous only for the public good, has earnestly endeavoured to unite all parties in the public service. This conciliatory spirit must, we think, attach all good and moderate men to your Royal Highness's Government, and cannot fail to have the best effect, in this part of the Empire, where, unhappily, great divisions prevail in respect to the question of Roman Catholic claims. On this subject we beg leave to lay before your Royal Highness our sentiments.

We profess that we feel for our Catholic fellow subjects every sentiment of affection and regard, and that we should rejoice to see extended to them every privilege compatible with the safety and security of our civil and religious establishments, with the perpetuity of our union with Great Britain, and with the preservation, in all its parts, of our excellent Constitution.

We thought it incumbent on us to communicate these our sentiments by petition to both houses of Parliament, on whose wisdom and liberality we confidently rely, and trust that whatever concessions may be made, they will be accompanied with such conditions and securities as may preserve, unimpaired, the Protestant establishment, both in church and state.

We cannot conclude without thanking your Royal Highness for your regard for the peace and prosperity of Ireland, evinced by your continuing in the chief government His Grace the Duke of Richmond; a nobleman whose administration has been uniformly distinguished by mildness and moderation.