

We humbly, but confidently trust, that the result of these important events will convince the whole world, that the energies and example of this country, directed by the wise Counsels and Government of your Royal Highness, have been employed, not for its own advantage only, but for the general good of mankind, by an endeavour to restore the balance of power, and to give to every nation its due weight and independence.

While we advert with so much pleasure to the prosperity of His Majesty's arms and those of his magnanimous allies, we cannot but deplore the cause which prevents His Majesty from personally participating in the general joy; feeling, nevertheless, as we do, peculiarly thankful for the wise manner in which the Government of these realms has been administered, during the time that the royal functions have been so ably sustained by your Royal Highness.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent made the following reply, in a most gracious and condescending manner:—

“I thank you for your cordial and affectionate address, and I accept with the liveliest gratification this mark of your loyalty and attachment.

“I receive the most sincere pleasure in your congratulations upon the glorious successes with which Divine Providence has favoured His Majesty's arms, under the Marquess of Wellington, and those of his allies, by which a large portion of Europe has been rescued from the unbounded ambition and oppressive tyranny of the Ruler of France.

“Relying on the high spirit and generous disposition of His Majesty's subjects, for a continuance of that fortitude and perseverance they have so nobly displayed during this long and painful struggle, I now look forward with confident hopes, that by the blessing of God, our future efforts will be crowned with success, and that we shall finally obtain a satisfactory and an honourable termination of this destructive contest.”

To His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, REGENT of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

May it please your Royal Highness,  
We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester, animated by the liveliest affection and devotion to your Royal Highness's Person and Government, desire permission to approach your Royal Highness, and to lay at your feet our cordial congratulations on the happy and glorious change which, by the wisdom of your Royal Highness's councils, and by the exertions and example of this country, has been wrought in the state of Europe.

It seemed good to Divine Providence, in whose hands are the issues of life and death, and the fate of contending empires, by a great calamity, the continuation of which we, in common with every class of His Majesty's subjects, deeply deplore, to call your Royal Highness to the Government of these Kingdoms, in a season of difficulty and danger unexampled; when Spain and Portugal, surprised by the treachery of France, were struggling for their existence as independent kingdoms, when the

weaker states, ensnared by the arts or enslaved by the arms of France and the more powerful nations and empires of the Continent of Europe, after being despoiled of their fairest provinces, were constrained to support the Colossal power of the enemy in his further schemes of aggression and aggrandisement: at such a crisis, when our alliances were broken; our trade declining; our commerce with the ports of Europe interdicted, your Royal Highness, by assuming the reins of Government, and by a steady and determined perseverance in Councils the most enlightened, happily laid the foundation of those brilliant victories which have terminated in the deliverance of Europe, and in fixing on the firmest basis the welfare and prosperity of these dominions.

We contemplate with gratitude to the Supreme Disposer of events these transcendent blessings; in the Peninsula the sword of the Tyrant broken, after a series of the most splendid achievements, under Field Marshal the Marquess of Wellington; the humiliation and expulsion of the French arms from the states of the German empire; and their integrity and independence vindicated; the Confederation of the Rhine dissolved; the hereditary dominions of our beloved Sovereign in the Electorate of Hanover, restored; the United Provinces of Holland delivered from the galling yoke of France; our trade revived; our commerce extended; and our ancient alliances renewed, and cemented by ties the most binding and affectionate.

We fervently implore the Almighty to continue to inspire your Royal Highness's Councils with the same wisdom, energy, and moderation by which they have been uniformly guided, and we humbly trust that to your Royal Highness is reserved the high and grateful privilege, of extinguishing the flames of war, of binding up the bleeding wounds of Europe, and of pouring into them the healing balm of an honourable and lasting Peace.

We beg your Royal Highness to permit us to add we have found a peculiar pleasure on this occasion of addressing your Royal Highness, when you have condescended to participate in the joy of a noble house (always famed for its loyalty) in an event so calculated to increase its happiness, and to perpetuate that attachment to the House of Brunswick, by which it has ever been distinguished.

Signed by the unanimous Order of a Common Hall,

Thomas Burbidge, Town Clerk.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent made the following reply, in a most gracious and condescending manner:—

“I thank you for this dutiful and affectionate address, which it is highly gratifying to me to receive at this place, the residence of a family distinguished, as you have justly described it, for its loyalty and for a steady attachment to the House of Brunswick.”

“I accept with the liveliest satisfaction your congratulations on the great change which has been produced in the state of public affairs at home and abroad, and especially on the unexampled career of victory which, through the favour of Divine Providence, has attended the arms of His Majesty and those of his allies. Never was heroic perseverance