

No. 2.

To the QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

WE, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Delegates representing the Protestant Dissenters of the Congregational Order, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, assembled at our half-yearly meeting, beg leave humbly to express the delight with which, when painfully bereaved of our late beloved Monarch, we hailed your Majesty's Accession to the Throne.

Remembering with the highest respect, the piety and virtues of your Majesty's illustrious Father, who endeared himself to the people by his cordial and enlightened patronage of Bible Societies, and other useful institutions; cherishing similar sentiments toward your happily surviving Parent, and rejoicing in your Majesty's most promising disposition and character, we find our traditional and steady attachment to the constitutional throne heightened by warm feelings of personal interest and ardent hope, joined with dutiful and loyal reverence.

We account it one of the brightest honours of your Crown, that your Majesty reigns over nations enjoying the inestimable blessing of freedom, civil and religious. It is indelibly engraven on our memories that the accession of the illustrious House of Hanover to the British Throne, delivered our predecessors in non-conformity from the operation of an iniquitous statute, by which they were to have been deprived, from the 1st of August, 1714, of the right of educating their youth. For that legal and zealous protection of the Protestant Dissenters which your Majesty's Royal Predecessors have from that time uniformly exercised, and which has animated our unshaken loyalty, we feel devoutly thankful; and are especially so, for the enlargement of our religious liberties under His late Majesty, whose patriotic character and highly beneficent reign, will ever endear to us his memory; and we rely on your Majesty's gracious declaration, that it will be your "unceasing study to secure to all, the full enjoyment of religious liberty;" for which assurance we entreat your Majesty to accept our most humble and grateful acknowledgements.

Without adverting to other measures for the extension of that great blessing, we crave permission to express our earnest desire for one, requisite especially for the progress of Christian charity; a measure warmly desired both by those who first enjoyed the legal toleration under your Majesty's noble minded predecessors William and Mary and now by numbers within as well as out of the establishment; that object is, that Episcopalian Clergymen may be permitted, by law, to preach, or otherwise officiate, occasionally, in the chapels of protestant dissenters, and Dissenting Ministers, occasionally, in the churches of the establishment, in every case at the voluntary invitation of the stated minister of the congregation, and according to its customary forms.

It is our humble opinion, that of the whole number of your Majesty's protestant subjects attending public worship each Lord's day, in England and Wales, those who do so in congregations not connected with the establishment are the majority. Among the evangelical sects of which that majority is almost en-

tirely composed, a cordial and brotherly feeling generally prevails, which has been cherished principally by such occasional interchanges of public ministerial services. The legal impossibility of any such interchanges between conforming and non-conforming ministers, has contributed greatly to the existing alienation and asperity; which we deplore as contrary both to the will of our God and Saviour, that his people shall be one, and to that cordial union of your Majesty's faithful subjects which will promote the honour of your Crown, and the vigour of your government.

Though it may be long before the necessary alteration of the law can be made, yet considering the importance of the views with which the discharge of any office is begun, especially of one so high; and the great influence of a Sovereign on the sentiments of others, we have thought it not premature humbly to state our wishes, while presenting our dutiful congratulations on the auspicious commencement of your Majesty's reign. Most happy and thankful shall we be, if the breach among protestants in England, made under your Majesty's renowned predecessor, Queen Elizabeth, the glory of whose reign was tarnished by intolerance, shall in this happier age be so far repaired, that your Majesty's Government shall be celebrated as the triumph equally of political wisdom and of Christian charity.

That your reign may be long, peaceful, happy, and glorious; that your Majesty may be strengthened for the weighty cares of empire by the refreshments of genuine piety and devotion; and may, after a protracted life of usefulness and honour, be raised to a throne in the presence of our Redeemer, is the earnest desire of our hearts, and shall be our constant prayer.

Read and voted unanimously, at the Autumnal Meeting of the North Riding Association of Independent Ministers and Congregations at Kirby Moor-side, 1837, and signed on its behalf, by us,

*Gabriel Croft*, Minister at Pickering; *William Blackburn*, Minister at Whitby, Secretaries of the Association.

[Transmitted by the Rev. G. Balderston Kidd.]

No. 3.

To the QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

WE, the President, Treasurer, Secretary, and acting Committee of the Methodists of the New Connection, established in 1797, on behalf of twenty thousand members of our Churches, and of one hundred thousand others who stately worship with them, beg to approach your Throne with the homage of our dutiful affection, and to assure your Majesty how deeply we participate in the feelings of sympathy and gladness which have filled the hearts of all your Majesty's faithful subjects.

Most sincerely do we regret the demise of His Most Gracious Majesty William the Fourth, a Sovereign endeared to his people by the virtues of his character, the purity of his Court, and the justice and liberality of his Government. With feelings of