

in which it is proffered; and, at the moment of such gracious acceptance, we would humbly invite a benignant sympathy towards the land whence we address you. The vast extent of its varied population (comprehending eighty millions of your subjects, and forty millions of your allies and tributaries), with the many and magnificent plans and projects, in operation or in prospect, towards their improvement, its indigenous treasures and its commercial wealth, its infinite capabilities, and the increasing frequency of their beneficial development, and, finally, its intrinsic value and acknowledged importance to the British Crown, are no unworthy subjects of your regard. It is the land which has enriched, by turns, the most civilized nations of the earth; and, though not cherished hitherto with the warm sympathy which it merits, has maintained its vigour and its resources, and shines, as it has long shone, the brightest jewel of your diadem.

The dominion established in British India by the arms and wisdom of your Ancestors, although it may not claim to be the most perfect of human institutions, has, nevertheless, brought prosperity and security where anarchy and violence had reigned without controul; and, when we turn from the history of the past to look upon the present, we cannot but be deeply impressed with a grateful consciousness of the vast benefits which have accrued from the union through which we enjoy the blessings we acknowledge.

No season can be more appropriate to the expression of such sentiments, and the assertion of our attachment to the Crown and Constitution, than that of the Accession of your Majesty to the seat of empire; and we nothing doubt, Heaven seconding our prayers, that the name of Victoria shall become associated, in our hearts and in our annals, with all that is noble, great, and dignified.

May the Almighty Disposer of all events grant that your Majesty may long remain the chosen instrument of maintaining the honour and interests of the great empire which it has pleased Him to commit to your sovereignty, and of preserving to the nations which He has entrusted to your rule their safety, their freedom, their civil rights, and their religious liberties.

Signed by me, on behalf and by authority of a General Meeting of Inhabitants of the city of Calcutta, in Town-hall assembled, on Friday the 29th of September 1837, pursuant to requisition addressed to me on the 5th of the same month,  
Thomas Holroyd, Sheriff.

Calcutta, September 29, 1837.

[Transmitted by Sir J. Hobhouse.]

To the QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty.

*May it please your Majesty,*

WE, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the European and Native Inhabitants of the Presidency of Bombay, humbly desire to present our heartfelt congratulations to your Majesty, on the occasion of your Accession to the Throne of the British Empire.

Enjoying, as your Majesty's subjects in this country have ever done since it came under the do-

minion of British rule, the greatest security and protection in their rights and liberties, they gladly avail themselves of this happy occasion, to testify to your Majesty the grateful sense they entertain of the many blessings they enjoy, and the vast benefits they have received, from the wisdom and justice so conspicuously manifested in the government of India by your Illustrious Ancestors.

Some of the proudest periods in the history of our country are those in which the sceptre has been swayed by female Sovereigns; and educated as your Majesty has been, under the immediate and affectionate care of an Illustrious Parent, and in a warm attachment for the British Constitution, we may confidently expect that your Majesty's reign will be equally distinguished.

As regards your Majesty's eastern dominions, we have abundant reason to hope that it will ever be your Majesty's gracious desire to pursue the same wise policy, and, to the utmost of your power, to promote the welfare and happiness of all classes of your Majesty's subjects in these distant but vast and important possessions of the British Throne.

We, therefore, humbly entreat that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to accept these expressions of our fidelity and allegiance, and to permit us to assure you of our steady and loyal attachment to your Majesty's Royal Person; with our earnest prayers that the Almighty Disposer of all events may bless you with health and strength, may support you under your arduous duties, and of His goodness grant to your Majesty a long, a happy, and a prosperous reign.

Town-hall, Bombay, October 18, 1837.

[Transmitted by Sir J. Hobhouse.]

Westminster, February 10, 1837.

This day, the Lords being met, a message was sent to the Honourable House of Commons by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them, that *The Lords, authorised by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal, signed by Her Majesty, for declaring Her Royal Assent to an Act agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate attendance of the Honourable House in the House of Peers to hear the Commission read*; and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, and several other Lords therein named, to declare and notify the Royal Assent to the said Act, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to

An Act to make temporary provision for the Government of Lower Canada.

Duchy of Lancaster, February 12, 1838.

The Queen has been this day pleased to appoint William Blundell, of Crosby-hall, Esq. to be Sheriff of the county palatine of Lancaster for the year ensuing.