

her hand on a Prince who, from his birth and education, his virtues and acquirements, so well deserves Her Majesty's affection; and we earnestly pray that this auspicious union may, through the Divine favour, be attended with the highest degree of domestic happiness, and may contribute to the best interests and welfare of Her Majesty's attached and faithful subjects.

Given at our House of Convocation, under our common Seal, this 19th day of February, in the year of our Lord, 1840.

To which Address His Royal Highness was pleased to return the following Answer:

"I accept with grateful feelings your congratulations, and am deeply sensible of the value of the testimony you are pleased to express in my favour, which is peculiarly gratifying, as coming from the illustrious University of Oxford.

"My most earnest prayer is, that this event, to me the most interesting event of my life, may, through the Divine favour, be conducive to the welfare of this great empire."

*Buckingham-Palace, March 3, 1840.*

THIS day the following Address was presented to His Royal Highness Prince Albert, which he was pleased to receive very graciously:

To His Royal Highness Field Marshall Francis Albert Augustus Charles Emanuel, Duke of Saxe, Prince of Saxe Coburg and Gotha.

*May it please your Royal Highness,*

WE, Her Majesty's loyal and affectionate subjects, the Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Presbyterian Denomination, in and about the cities of London and Westminster, beg leave to present to your Royal Highness our cordial congratulations upon the auspicious event of your Royal Highness's alliance in marriage with Her Majesty, our beloved Queen.

We welcome your Royal Highness to the exalted station which you are called by the Divine Providence to occupy in these kingdoms, as the worthy descendant of an illustrious race of Princes, ever memorable and honoured in history for being the heroic defenders of religious liberty.

We derive the highest satisfaction from the persuasion that the talents and acquirements, the dispositions and habits of your Royal Highness, fit you for sustaining with dignity your elevated rank in this great and free country, which henceforth adopts you as her own, and for being the affectionate companion and inseparable friend of Her gracious Majesty, in whose comfort and happiness the welfare of the whole people is involved.

We fervently pray, as becomes the character which we profess, that the Almighty Ruler, the Supreme Giver of Good, may cause your alliance with the Illustrious Daughter of England to be a lasting blessing to the nation, and to Her gracious Majesty

and your Royal Highness a source of happiness, which shall increase with the coming years, and flow beyond the present transitory life.

To which Address His Royal Highness returned the following Answer:

"Be assured that I receive the congratulations of the Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Presbyterian Denomination with cordial satisfaction; and am well assured of those fervent hopes which they express for my happiness, and for the prosperity of the country."

*Buckingham-Palace, March 3, 1840.*

THIS day the following Address was presented to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, which she was pleased to receive very graciously:

To Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent.

*May it please your Royal Highness,*

WE, Her Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects, the Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Presbyterian Denomination, in and about the cities of London and Westminster, beg leave to offer to your Royal Highness our heartfelt congratulations upon the auspicious occasion of the marriage of Her most gracious Majesty, our beloved Queen, with His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha.

This event, so interesting in itself to your Royal Highness's maternal affections, must be a source of peculiar satisfaction and pleasure to your Royal Highness, since it draws closer the ties between the Members of your Royal Highness's Illustrious Family, and places near your august Daughter a Royal Consort whose personal qualities are so many pledges of conjugal felicity.

We have before expressed, and in the language of sincerity, our deep sense of the obligations of the people of these kingdoms to your Royal Highness for your admirable discharge of the duties of a mother towards the Heir—now, under the Divine Providence, the rightful Possessor—of the Throne.

We must be permitted to repeat the expression of our own and the national gratitude, now that we have had experience of Her Majesty's wise, liberal, and beneficent government.

And we fervently pray, that the happiness of Her Majesty in the recent conjugal alliance, and in all Her relations to the people, may, in reward of your parental piety, be reflected, with constantly increasing lustre, upon your Royal Highness's maternal heart: an earnest of your joint participation, through the mercy of the Heavenly Father by our Redeemer, in the grace of life everlasting.

To which Address Her Royal Highness delivered the following Answer:

"Reverend Gentlemen,

"I return you my sincere thanks for your cordial congratulations on the marriage of my beloved