

nations, in and about the cities of London and Westminster, desire to approach your Majesty with the assurance of our true-hearted attachment to your Majesty's Royal person and Government.

We would humbly represent to your Majesty our conviction that we are indebted, under God, for our national prosperity and greatness, and especially for our civil and religious liberties, to those principles of the protestant reformation which placed your Majesty's ancestors of the illustrious House of Brunswick on the Throne, and that we must ever look to the maintenance of these principles for the preservation of the just prerogatives of the Crown and for the constitutional rights and social happiness of the people. We therefore feel ourselves called upon, by imperative obligation, to denounce the recent claim of the Pope to exercise jurisdiction in your Majesty's realm as an arrogant assumption of power incompatible with national independence, and alike inimical to the authority of the Monarch and the freedom of the subject.

Warned by the past history of popery, as well as by the condition of those countries where it is still in power, we cannot but look with apprehension upon the boldness with which the Pope has felt himself encouraged to take a step, unprecedented in this country since the time of the reformation, since it indicates the existence of hopes and schemes which, should they be realized, would prove fatal to all that is dear to us, both as Englishmen and Christians; we cannot therefore refrain from expressing to your Majesty the deep regret with which we look upon the causes which have conduced to the recent measure, as they may, some of them, be found in the legislative patronage of popery, and some in the anti-protestant teaching and practices which of late years have so extensively prevailed in the established church.

While we desire in no way to infringe upon the religious liberty of Roman Catholics, and would humbly state to your Majesty our unabated claim of the rights of conscience, both for them and for ourselves, and for all your Majesty's subjects, we do not consider that these rights would be impaired by your Majesty's disallowance of the territorial titles and jurisdiction conferred by the Pope; and for the developement of popery to be only so far legally permitted as is plainly compatible with the security of the Throne and the liberties of the subject.

We desire to be allowed, in conclusion, to assure your Majesty that we are animated by the same spirit of ardent attachment to the civil constitution of our country, and of loyalty to the Throne, which have ever distinguished protestant nonconformists; and while we devoutly thank God for all the bounties which His Providence has bestowed upon us, under your Majesty's auspicious reign, we offer to Him our fervent prayers that your Majesty, with your Royal Consort, and your illustrious family, may possess every domestic and public,—every temporal and spiritual blessing,—and that at length, through the grace of our only Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, when your Majesty shall resign an earthly Crown, it may be to receive a Heavenly Diadem, and to reign in God's celestial Kingdom for ever.

*John Leifchild, D.D.* Chairman.

*Robert Redpath, A.M.* Secretary of the General Body.

To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following most gracious Answer:

"I receive with much satisfaction your renewed assurances of loyalty and attachment to my person

and Government. I fully appreciate the importance of a firm adherence to the principles of the protestant reformation, and you may rely on my earnest desire in asserting the just prerogatives of my Crown and the constitutional rights of my people, to maintain unimpaired the blessings of civil and religious liberty, which are so justly dear to this country."

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 11th day of *February* 1851,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

HER Majesty having been pleased to appoint Sir Richard Bulkeley Williams Bulkeley, Baronet, to be Lord Lieutenant of the county of Carnarvon, he this day took the oaths appointed to be taken thereupon instead of the oaths of allegiance and supremacy.

AT the Court at *Buckingham-Palace*, the 3rd day of *February* 1851,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS Her Majesty's Commissioners for building new churches have, in pursuance of the sixteenth section of an Act passed in the fifty-ninth year of the reign of His Majesty King George the Third, intituled "An Act to amend and render more effectual an Act, passed in the last session of Parliament, for building, and promoting the building of additional churches in populous parishes;" and of the third section of an Act passed in the session of Parliament holden in the second and third years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to make better provision for the assignment of ecclesiastical districts to churches or chapels augmented by the Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne, and for other purposes;" or under and by virtue of any and every other power or authority vested in the said Commissioners by the Church Building Acts, duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a representation, bearing date the twenty-eighth day of January one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, in the words following; that is to say:

"Your Majesty's Commissioners for building new churches beg leave humbly to represent to your Majesty, that, having taken into consideration all the circumstances of the parish of Minster, in the Isle of Sheppey, in the county of Kent, and within the diocese of Canterbury, it appears to them to be expedient that a particular district should be assigned to the consecrated church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, situate at Sheerness, in the said parish of Minster, under and by virtue of the power or authority for this purpose contained in the sixteenth section of an Act, passed in the fifty-ninth year of the reign of His Majesty King George the Third, intituled 'An Act to amend and render more effectual an Act passed in the last session of Parliament, for building, and promoting the building of additional churches in populous parishes,' and in the third section of an Act passed in the session of Parliament holden in the second and third years of your Majesty's reign, intituled 'An Act to make better provision for the assignment of ecclesiastical districts to churches or chapels,