

New Tower Bridge on the 21st day of June 1886:—

To His Royal Highness Albert Edward,
PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

WE, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled, heartily and gratefully welcome the presence of Your Royal Highness, on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, upon an occasion so interesting, and in its object so important, to the commercial interests of this vast Metropolis.

The Corporation of London has possessed for centuries estates charged with the maintenance of London Bridge. These estates were partly bestowed by generous citizens and partly derived from gifts made at the Chapel of Saint Thomas à Beckett, on London Bridge, for the maintenance of the bridge.

By careful husbanding and management of these estates, the Corporation has been enabled during the present century to rebuild, entirely free of cost to the ratepayers, London Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge, and to purchase and free from toll Southwark Bridge.

These obligations being provided for, the Committee charged with the management of the Bridge House Estates, brought up to the Court by the hand of their Chairman, Mr. Frank Green, in 1884, a full and exhaustive report, with plans, recommending that application be made to Parliament for powers to construct a new bridge across the River Thames from the Tower, which was agreed to.

In the session of 1885, the same Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Thomas Beard, successfully promoted a Bill in Parliament, authorizing the construction of a Bridge, to inaugurate which, in the name of Her Majesty the Queen, your Royal Highness so graciously attends to-day.

Its completion within the space of four years, at a cost of 750,000 pounds, will supply a paramount need that has been sorely felt by dwellers and workers on the north and south sides of the Thames below London Bridge, and at the same time will greatly relieve the congested traffic across that ancient and famous thoroughfare.

In conclusion, we desire to express on this the first day of the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's happy and prosperous reign, our unswerving loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty the Queen, and to heartily thank Your Royal Highness for the important part you have been pleased to undertake in the great work before us, enhanced as it is, to our intense gratification, by the graceful presence of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, to whom, with Your Royal Highness, we wish long life and all prosperity and happiness.

Signed by order of the Court,
John B. Monckton, Town Clerk.

Guildhall, 21st June, 1886.

To which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on behalf of Her Majesty, give the following most gracious Answer:—

"Gentlemen,

"IT gives the Princess of Wales and Myself sincere pleasure to be permitted on behalf of The Queen, my dear mother, to drive the first pile of the New Tower Bridge, and in Her name We thank you for your loyal Address, and assure you of Her interest in this great undertaking.

"All must allow that this work, when completed, will be one of great public utility and general convenience, as tending materially to

relieve the congested traffic across this noble river.

"We shall always retain in Our remembrance this important ceremony.

"We cordially thank you for the very hearty welcome which you have accorded to Us, and We will not fail to communicate to The Queen the sentiments of affectionate attachment which you have expressed."

Foreign Office, June 28, 1886.

IT is hereby notified that the Earl of Rosebery, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received a Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Athens, dated June 7, 1886, reporting that the Representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Italy, and Russia delivered on that day to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs a Note, of which the following is a translation:—

Athens, 26 May, 1886.
7 June,

THE undersigned, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Russia, and the Representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, and Italy have been instructed by their respective Governments to inform His Excellency Monsieur Dragoumis, His Hellenic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, that, in consequence of the communication of an official Despatch from His Excellency, dated the 29th 31st May of the present year, relative to the measures of disarmament taken by the Hellenic Government, and in view of the pacific assurances of the Cabinet of Athens conveyed in that communication, the above-mentioned Governments, taking note of those assurances, have the satisfaction of recognising that in present circumstances there is no further occasion to prolong the rigorous measures to which they have had recourse in the interests of the general peace.

In consequence the undersigned, in the name of their respective Governments, have the honour to announce to His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the commanders of the combined squadrons have received orders to raise the blockade of the coasts of Greece.

The undersigned have, &c.,

(Signed) BUTZOW.
LEYDEN.
VELICS.
WALTER BARING.
ROSSI-TOESCA.

Whitehall, June 29, 1886.

THE Queen has been pleased, by Warrant under Her Majesty's Royal Sign Manual, dated the 28th instant, to place the name of the Reverend Charles Mansfield Owen, M.A., on the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the Condition and Education of the Blind, the Deaf and Dumb, and others.

Downing Street, June 28, 1886.

THE Queen has been pleased to appoint William Henry Lionel Cox, Esq. (Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court), to be Procureur and Advocate-General for the Colony of Mauritius.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to appoint Mr. John Rouillard (Master of the Supreme Court) to be a Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony of Mauritius.