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*Whitehall, March 25, 1887.*

THE following Addresses were received by Her Majesty on the occasion of Her recent visit to the Borough of Birmingham on the 23rd instant:—

To Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN.

*May it please Your Majesty,*

WE, Your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Birmingham, in Council assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty with our loyal and hearty welcome.

Nearly thirty years have passed since Your Majesty, in company with the ever-lamented Prince Consort, honoured Birmingham with Your Royal Presence, and we believe that Your Majesty will not fail to notice, on the present occasion, the great changes and improvements that have, during this period, taken place in our town.

The object of Your Majesty's gracious visit is to lay the foundation stone of a noble building, destined for a noble purpose: the administration of Your Majesty's Justice in the midst of our great community; and, while we offer to Your Majesty our most hearty thanks for such a mark of Your Royal favour, we shall always regard it as a most happy circumstance that this great work was begun with Your Majesty's special sanction and assistance in this the Jubilee Year of Your Majesty's most glorious reign.

We fervently hope that this famous year may be one of true happiness to Your Majesty; and that, cheered by the love of Your sons and daughters, and secure in the affection and loyalty of Your people, Your Majesty may long be spared to preside over the destinies of this mighty Empire.

Given under our Common Seal this 23rd day of March, in the year of our Lord 1887, and in the fiftieth year of Your Majesty's Reign.

*Thomas Martineau, Mayor.  
Edward Orford Smith,  
Town Clerk.*



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

"I RECEIVE with great pleasure your loyal and dutiful Address, and I fully appreciate the

cordial welcome with which My people of Birmingham have met Me.

"I have observed with much gratification the vast improvements carried out, by the energy of the Corporation, since my last visit to Birmingham with my beloved husband, in 1858.

"I have seen with admiration the designs for the noble building which the Corporation intend to erect, and which appears to be in every way worthy of the high purposes it is meant to fulfil, by giving convenience and dignity to the administration of justice in your midst.

"I thank you heartily for your affectionate reference to Myself and My dear children.

"During the long and eventful period now extending to fifty years, through which My reign has continued, the loyalty and affection of My faithful people have been to Me a constant source of support in difficulty and of solace in affliction.

"I pray God that prosperity and happiness may ever attend on the labour of this vast and industrious community."

To Her Most Gracious Majesty, from the Royal Society of Artists:—

*May it please Your Majesty,*

WE, the Members of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists, desire humbly to offer to Your Majesty our loyal and respectful congratulations on the attainment of the fiftieth year of Your Majesty's happy reign, and to express our deep sense of the distinction Your Majesty has conferred upon the town of Birmingham, by visiting it to lay the foundation stone of the Royal Courts of Justice. As representing a body devoted to the cultivation and promotion of Art, we claim to have an especial interest in Your Majesty's presence amongst us, for we recall with gratitude the honour done to us by the condescending kindness with which Your Majesty accorded Your gracious patronage to our Society, an act of favour marked by Your Majesty's command that the designation of Royal should thenceforth be incorporated with the title of our Society.

While we gratefully acknowledge the favour thus conferred upon ourselves, and testify to the benefits we have derived from it, we desire also as Artists, to thankfully express our appreciation of a peculiar distinction of Your Majesty's reign, by the diffusion of Art amongst the people, through the formation of societies for its promotion, the provision of public picture galleries and museums, the development