

system of screw propulsion and the substitution of iron and steel for wood in the construction of Your Majesty's ships; in the plating of Your more powerful ships with armour, as also in the great advancement made in the power and range of heavy ordnance; in the introduction of the turret and barbette systems, and of torpedoes and quick-firing guns as material of war; in the development of marine engines of great power, adding to the speed and efficiency of Your Fleet; in the completion of the great basins and docks in Your Majesty's dockyards, and of the military harbours of Portland and Holyhead; in the introduction of the continuous service system for manning Your Majesty's Fleet, the establishment of a Royal Naval Reserve, composed of seamen enrolled from the mercantile marine, and in the raising of a force of Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers; in the establishing of a Coast Guard—consisting of a large reserve of seamen for Your Majesty's Fleet; and, lastly, in the establishment of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich for the scientific education of officers of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. In addition to all these various improvements, many most beneficial measures have likewise been adopted for improving the education and social condition of the petty and non-commissioned officers, seamen and marines of Your Majesty's Fleet. In commemoration of Your Majesty's long and auspicious reign of fifty years, we are deputed most respectfully to offer for Your Majesty's gracious acceptance the models of two ships—one the 'Britannia,' of 120 guns, typical of the line of battle ships in use at the period of Your Majesty's accession to the Throne in 1837—the other the 'Victoria,' launched this year, a specimen of the large and formidable battle ship of the present day. They are the spontaneous offering of a loyal and devoted Service—Your Majesty's Royal Navy—a profession which, with every sentiment of profound and dutiful respect, trusts Your Majesty may long be spared in health to reign over this mighty Empire."

To which Her Majesty graciously replied as follows:—

"It has given Me the greatest satisfaction to receive this Address of Congratulation on the completion of the 50th year of My reign, and I shall accept with pleasure the interesting presents you offer Me. Although the alteration and improvements illustrated by these Models are most striking, I feel confident that there is no change in the spirit of My Navy, and that the gallantry which animated your predecessors will, with God's assistance, enable you to protect our shores and commerce and secure to this country the blessings of peace."

Sir Alexander Milne then offered the Album to Her Majesty, after which the following officers were presented to The Queen:—

Admiral Sir Edward Inglefield, K.C.B., Member of the Committee of Taste.  
 Lieutenant-General John W. C. Williams, Deputy Adjutant-General Royal Marines.  
 Rear-Admiral Richard Wells, Chairman of the Executive Committee.  
 Inspector of Machinery R. Sennett, Engineer-in-Chief, Royal Navy.  
 Captain Lourenço Edye, Royal Marines, Secretary of Executive Committee.

Luncheon was served in a tent on the lawn.