

We assure You, Sir, that our earnest and humble prayer to Almighty God is that, as He has shielded Your Majesty from danger in the past, so He will vouchsafe to You, with Your Royal Consort, our beloved Queen, long to reign in undisturbed peace and happiness over a loyal, united and prosperous Empire.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

"I receive with much gratification your renewed expressions of loyalty to My Throne and Person, and your sympathetic references to My beloved Mother Queen Victoria and to My revered Father, who was so deeply interested in everything connected with the University of Cambridge, of which he was the Chancellor.

"I am proud to be a member of the University, and I shall always look back with great pleasure upon the time which I spent as an undergraduate at Trinity. It was a great gratification to Me to send My dear Son, the Duke of Clarence, to be matriculated at the same ancient and splendid Foundation. And Queen Alexandra well remembers with what pride and interest I showed Her shortly after Our marriage the University where I had studied.

"There are around Us many memorials of the interest taken in the University by My Ancestors; and like them I earnestly desire its well-being, and the extension and development of all branches of study and research which are essential to the maintenance of the greatness and welfare of the Empire. I have no doubt that Cambridge will continue to occupy a foremost place in this great work; but the older Universities must receive new endowment if education within My Realm is to be kept at its proper standard of efficiency. I am glad to know that many munificent donations have been received to that end; and the Museums that are now being opened for the study of subjects of especial importance at the present time, will serve as an example of that generosity. The members of the Cambridge University Association, the subscribers to the Sedgwick Memorial, and all other friends of the University, will rejoice already to see the fruit of their efforts in the Sedgwick Museum, the Law School, the Botanical Laboratory, and other new buildings.

"But this great University should aim at nothing less than a complete apparatus of learning and research; and I trust to see the Endowment Fund reach the level of that aspiration.

"I heartily thank you for your welcome to Queen Alexandra and Myself, and for your good wishes; and I earnestly join with you in the prayer that the Empire may throughout My Reign continue in peace and prosperity."

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 7th day of *March*, 1904.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

HIS MAJESTY was this day pleased to declare His consent to a contract of matrimony between Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra Louise Maria Olga Elisabeth Thérèse Wera, born Princess of Great Britain and Ireland, Duchess of Brunswick and Luneburg, daughter of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, and His Royal Highness Prince Friedrich Franz IV, Grand Duke

of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, which consent His Majesty has caused to be signified under the Great Seal and to be entered in the Books of the Privy Council.

A. W. FitzRoy.

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 7th day of *March*, 1904.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

This day Charles Hardinge, Esquire, C.V.O., C.B., commonly called the Honourable Charles Hardinge, was, by His Majesty's command, sworn of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and took his place at the Board accordingly.

A. W. FitzRoy.

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 7th day of *March*, 1904.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of the Act of the sixth and seventh years of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, chapter seventy-seven of the Act of the sixth and seventh years of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria chapter thirty-seven, and of the Act of the nineteenth and twentieth years of Her said late Majesty, chapter one hundred and four, duly prepared and laid before His Majesty in Council a scheme bearing date the twenty-eighth day of January, in the year one thousand nine hundred and four, in the words and figures following, that is to say:—

"We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, in pursuance of the Act of the sixth and seventh years of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, chapter seventy-seven of the Act of the sixth and seventh years of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, chapter thirty-seven, and of the Act of the nineteenth and twentieth years of Her said late Majesty, chapter one hundred and four, have prepared and now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council the following scheme for constituting a separate district for spiritual purposes out of the parish of Methley, in the county of York, and in the diocese of Ripon, out of the parish of Featherstone, in the said county of York, and in the diocese of York, and out of the parish of Swillington, in the said county of York, and in the said diocese of Ripon.

"Whereas we are satisfied that the said parishes of Methley, Featherstone, and Swillington are parishes wherein or in parts whereof the provision for public worship and for pastoral superintendence is insufficient for the spiritual wants of the inhabitants thereof, and it has been made to appear to us that it would promote the interests of religion that the particular portions of the said parishes of Methley, Featherstone, and Swillington which are hereinafter mentioned and described should be constituted a separate district in the manner which is hereinafter set forth.

"And whereas there is not at present within the limits of the said proposed separate district any consecrated church or chapel in use for the purpose of Divine worship.