

Majesty's personal relations with the Borough as Lord of the Manor.

We have an affectionate remembrance of Your Majesties' previous visit to this Borough in the year 1896, to perform the opening ceremony of the Technical Institute, which visit is one of the most memorable incidents in the history of this ancient Borough, and marks an epoch in the educational advancement of the County Borough and surrounding districts.

We earnestly pray that Your Majesties may be long spared to manifest your interest in the industrial institutions of the country, and that you may be blessed with health and strength, so that you may have great joy in ruling over your loyal and devoted subjects.

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

The Queen and I thank you most cordially for your loyal and dutiful Address.

We recollect with pleasure Our visit to Salford in 1896, and it is gratifying on revisiting your ancient Borough to see around Us so many proofs of your enterprise and prosperity. I am very glad to learn that the Technical Institute which I opened on that occasion has fulfilled the hopes which were then entertained of its value and usefulness. As Lord of the Manor of Salford I shall always feel a warm interest in the fortunes of your town, its institutions and its people.

*Whitehall, July 31, 1913.*

The following Address was presented to the King on Thursday, the 24th July, on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the new Offices of the Commonwealth of Australia in London:—

To His Most Excellent Majesty the King.

The Loyal and Dutiful Address of the High Commissioner for the COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA in London.

On behalf of Your Majesty's Australian Government, I beg leave to tender most grateful thanks to Your Majesty for your gracious consent to lay the Foundation Stone of the new Offices of the Commonwealth in London.

I also beg leave to be permitted to ask Her Majesty the Queen to accept the grateful thanks of the Australian Government for graciously consenting to accompany Your Majesty.

I hope and believe that this edifice, when completed, will prove worthy of the kindness of Your Majesty, worthy of Australia and of this Imperial city. A spacious exhibition of the resources of Australia will be one of the chief features of this Commonwealth Building.

That display will be a perpetual reminder of the noble opportunities which our Continent presents for vigorous development and successful enterprise.

The people of Australia remember with

great satisfaction that Your Majesty and Her Majesty the Queen have a close personal knowledge of them and of their country. Indeed, the same may be said of all the large divisions of the vast Empire over which the auspicious reign of Your Royal and Imperial Majesty extends.

The difficulties and dangers of navigation which used to make Australia seem to be at such an immense distance from Great Britain have disappeared. Emigration has ceased to be exile. Secure and prosperous conditions of life have been established over immense areas of our virgin continent. The flag planted by Captain Cook less than a hundred and fifty years ago on our then unknown coasts has become the emblem of a sway over the Southern Seas almost universal.

I feel I need not remind Your Majesty that this new building will proclaim something more than the industrial growth of Australia. It will also testify to the increasing intimacy and harmony of the political relationship between the Mother and the Daughter lands. Some ties have gone, but the ties that really do unite Britain and the Dominions beyond the seas—mutual betterment—pride of race—grandeur of tradition—glory of achievement—loyalty to the Throne—a resolve to stand shoulder to shoulder when our King calls—all these remain and they are strengthened by the flight of time.

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

It gives Me much pleasure, and not less pleasure to the Queen, who accompanies Me, to be present on this interesting occasion for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new Offices of the Commonwealth Government in London.

I congratulate the Commonwealth on the acquisition of this splendid site and on the noble structure which it is proposed to erect upon it. When completed it will take its place as a worthy and welcome addition to the buildings which adorn the centre of the Empire, and it will not only serve those useful purposes for which it is designed, but will also call to the mind of all who pass by the immense opportunities and limitless resources of the great continent under the Southern Cross. I cherish the most happy recollections of My two visits to Australia in 1881 and 1901, and of the warmth of the reception accorded to Me in all the States on both occasions. My second visit remains to both of Us an inspiring memory, when I was deputed by My dear Father to inaugurate the first Parliament of the Commonwealth.

Nothing can gratify Me more than the testimony which you bear to the growing sense of kinship and unity which pervades the self-governing communities of the Empire, and to those indissoluble ties which knit them to one another and to My Throne.

I am well assured that, as in the past, in any national emergency Australia will be ready to play her part for the common cause, and that the loyalty of her sons will never be appealed to in vain.