

Whitehall, July 8, 1921.

The KING has been graciously pleased to grant unto Ernest Otway Ward, of Maritzburg, in the Union of South Africa, Esquire, Inspector of Crown lands in the Land Department of the said Union, His Royal Licence and Authority that he may take and henceforth use the surname of La Touche in addition to and after that of Ward, and bear the Arms of La Touche quarterly with the Arms of Ward, and that such surname and Arms may in like manner be taken, borne and used by his issue; the said Arms being first duly exemplified according to the Laws of Arms and recorded in His Majesty's College of Arms, otherwise the said Royal Licence and Permission to be void and of none effect.

And to command that the said Royal Concession and Declaration be recorded in His Majesty's said College of Arms.

130

Whitehall, 15th July, 1921.

The following Address was presented to The King on Friday, the 8th instant, on the occasion of the opening by His Majesty of the King George V Dock:—

PORT OF LONDON AUTHORITY.

TO HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY THE KING.
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.

The Members of the Port of London Authority desire to offer a loyal welcome to Your Majesty on the occasion of Your Majesty's visit to the centre of the great Dock system of this ancient Capital.

History records that as long ago as the year 59 Anno Domini the Thames Waterway was a resort of traders and merchant vessels. A fine natural approach and the enterprise of the trading community since those days have secured for the Port an unrivalled and ever-increasing prosperity.

Parliament created the Authority in 1909 unifying under one administrative control the tidal waters of the Thames, 70 miles in length, and its extensive Dock systems, and placed upon the Authority the duty of improving and developing the Port and its approaches.

The Authority has been continuously engaged in carrying out this task. Very soon after its creation it adopted a great scheme of improvements, of which the new Dock which Your Majesty has graciously consented to open to-day is the most substantial instalment, adding as it does one-tenth to the water area of the Dock System and providing accommodation for vessels of the largest class.

The Members of the Authority beg that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to allow the new Dock to be known as "The King George V Dock."

The abiding interest of Your Majesty in all that affects the welfare of the Port has been proved by the many visits of Your Majesty and the Members of your Illustrious House to the various Docks of the Authority. The Authority hopes that Your Majesty may find it possible on many other occasions to repeat these visits, as and when further important developments are completed.

The Members of the Authority venture to hope that the improvements upon which they are engaged will secure for the Port an increased efficiency and a prosperity worthy of its position

as the great port of Your Majesty's Empire, and they wish to express their gratitude for the honour conferred upon them by Your Majesty's presence here to-day.

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

I heartily thank you on behalf of The Queen and Myself for your loyal Address and for the welcome which you have given us.

It is with peculiar satisfaction that I come here to-day for the purpose of opening this splendid addition to the dock system of the Port of London. My House has long been associated with the development and improvement of the Port. The Victoria Dock and the Royal Albert Dock bear the names of my revered grandparents; and I remember that 41 years ago the Duke and Duchess of Connaught on behalf of Queen Victoria opened the Royal Albert Dock. And having visited this new dock during its construction I feel an intimate and personal interest in seeing the completion of a work which promises to add so much to the efficiency and prosperity of the Port. I have much pleasure in acceding to your request that the dock shall be known as the King George V Dock.

You have reminded us in your Address of the great antiquity of London as a port. Even in the far off days of the Romans it was frequented by foreign merchants and trading ships, and the history of its development into the largest port in the world must appeal to every sailor and every merchant who has any feeling for the romance of his calling. The port in which Chaucer worked as a Custom House official, in which Drake, the founder of our sea-power, entertained his Sovereign on board the "Golden Hind," is deeply interwoven with the fabric of English history. From those times onward the traffic and discoveries of our ancestors have brought an increasing commerce to the shores of the Thames, until it is not too much to say that here the highways of the oceans meet.

You have referred to the natural advantages of the Thames estuary and to the enterprise of the trading community as the two great factors in the advancement of the Port of London. For many centuries seamen and merchants were content to rely on the first of these, but during the last hundred years improvements in shipbuilding and the growth of the trade of London have rendered it necessary in an increasing degree to call in commercial enterprise and engineering skill to supplement natural advantages. It is one hundred and twenty years since the first of the great London docks, the West India Dock, was opened; and I note with interest that the opening was performed by no less distinguished a man than the younger Pitt, then Prime Minister.

The ceremony of to-day will, I hope, prove an equally important landmark in the history of the Port of London. It signals the completion of the first and most immediately pressing part of the great scheme of improvement which you set before yourselves upon the passing of the Act of 1908, which created you the Port Authority and charged you with the care of all these docks and the interests of this vast concourse of shipping. That responsibility was given to you because it was felt that individual and private enterprise which had begun this