

Prince of Wales. By Her Majesty's gracious command, in commemoration of her visit, the Institution then took the name of the "Royal Manchester Exchange."

We are profoundly conscious that the commercial prosperity of your Majesty's dominions is in great measure dependent upon the security afforded to industrial enterprise, both by the settled form of Government at home and by the friendly relationships with all Foreign Powers maintained under your Majesty's governance.

Recognising as we do that the preservation of peace is essential to the best interests of British commerce, we welcomed your Majesty's gracious message of two years ago commending the cause of the League of Nations to all the citizens of your Empire.

We earnestly pray that Almighty God may bless and further your Majesties in all the duties of your exalted station, and that He will vouchsafe to your Majesties every happiness in private and family life, and it is our fervent hope that your Majesties may be spared for many years to reign over a loyal, prosperous, and united people in this Kingdom, and in your Majesty's Empire and Dominions beyond the seas.

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

I thank you for your loyal and dutiful Address and for the cordial expression of your good wishes for The Queen and Myself.

It is a great pleasure to Us to meet you to-day in the Manchester Royal Exchange, and I feel a particular gratification in discharging at your request the duty of opening this building after its reconstruction. The long history of the Exchange as an institution and its connection with the revered memory of Queen Victoria would suffice by themselves to give it a claim on Our regard; and the striking figures which you have brought to Our notice reveal the immense scope of the interests represented and the vast scale of the business done within its walls, and bear eloquent testimony to its unique importance in the world of British industry and commerce. The Exchanges have played a great part in the evolution of the modern business world; they have been the chief agency in transforming the hand-to-mouth operations of the old economic system into that steady rhythm of production and distribution which is the ideal of modern business organisation. In this process the Manchester Exchange has led the way. Its position as the great distributive centre for cotton yarns and fabrics makes its operations a matter of vital importance to the prosperity of British commerce and to the well-being of the whole country. It is, therefore, of good omen for the future of British trade and a cause of rejoicing to everyone who has the national welfare at heart that the membership and the transactions of your Exchange have so greatly increased. I congratulate you most sincerely on the fortunate necessity for this latest enlargement of an institution which has already been so many times enlarged and extended.

I note with interest that the ceremony of to-day marks the completion of an undertaking which was begun immediately before the outbreak of the late terrible war. I earnestly hope that we may accept this as an indication that the interruption to the normal course of trade caused by the war is coming to an end

and that the great trading community of Manchester will soon be able to pick up the broken threads of its economic development.

I share to the full your aspirations for the preservation of peace and of friendly relations with foreign Powers. The attachment of Manchester to the cause of peace is a tradition of long standing; and, indeed, the value of peace is a lesson which your own circumstances must constantly bring home to you. Your staple industry derives all its raw material from abroad, and looks to overseas markets to take much of its finished product. It is typical of the dependence of these Islands on foreign trade and of that international character of modern business which makes it impossible for any great manufacturing or mercantile community to live an isolated or self-sufficient life.

It is My earnest hope and prayer that the ceremony in which we are taking part to-day may prove to be the starting point for steady and ever-increasing development in the trades which are centred in this Exchange, and that this in its turn may serve to promote cordial and friendly relations between our own country and the peoples, whether within or without My Empire, who are united with it by commercial ties.

Foreign Office,

18th October, 1921.

Notice of the desire of His Majesty's Government to terminate the Convention between Great Britain and France, signed at Paris on the 1st July, 1861, relative to the Emigration of Labourers from India to the French Colonies, was given to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs by His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris on the 1st July last, and was duly accepted by the French Government.

The Convention will accordingly cease to have effect from the 1st January, 1923, viz., eighteen months after the date of the notice of denunciation.

St. James's Palace, S.W.,

17th October, 1921.

The Prince of Wales has been pleased to appoint Brigadier-General Charles Richard Woodroffe, C.M.G., C.B.E., to be Military Secretary to His Royal Highness for His visit to Japan.

Whitehall, October 14, 1921.

The KING has been pleased to give and grant unto the undermentioned officers of the Royal Navy His Majesty's Royal licence and authority to wear Decorations which have been conferred upon them by His Majesty the King of Roumania in recognition of valuable services rendered by them in connection with the Mission to Roumania in 1920:—

ORDER OF THE STAR OF ROUMANIA.

Cross of Commander.

Captain Humphrey Wykeham Bowring,
D.S.O., R.N.

Cross of Chevalier.

Paymaster Lieutenant Hubert Percival
Chapman, R.N.