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TUESDAY, 3 MAY, 1955

Whitehall, May 3, 1955.

The following Address was presented to The QUEEN on the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to Gloucester on the 3rd instant:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:

The most humble Address of The Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Gloucester in the County of the City of Gloucester: May it please Your Majesty:

We, the Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of Gloucester tender to Your Majesty and to His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh a most loyal and affectionate welcome on this Your first visit to Your City of Gloucester. We thank Your Majesty most sincerely for the signal honour which You have conferred on us by Your gracious presence on the occasion of the Octocentenary celebrations of our earliest Royal Charter of Liberties granted by King Henry II.

For centuries afterwards the burgesses or free inhabitants of the ancient borough continued to enjoy those Liberties; and this much-prized heritage is now kept green by their descendants the present Chartered Freemen, who are privileged to join with us in our welcome to Your Majesty.

As long ago as the Twelfth Century, Gloucester was famous for its ironworks and smithery, as well as for its trade in coal, timber and other merchandise; and in modern times the City's splendid geographical position at the cross-roads of England and Wales and at the centre of a great agricultural County, coupled with the advantages of excellent transport systems by water, road, rail and air, has attracted many and diverse industries within and without its borders, examples of which have been exhibited to Your Majesty. The universal appeal of these industries has brought within our midst Your Majesty's subjects from all parts of the Realm and the British Commonwealth overseas, where Your travels have strengthened the ties that bind them to The Crown.

We beg to assure Your Majesty of our most loyal and devoted attachment to Your Person and Throne, of our unfailing support in the heavy task of Sovereignty, and of our earnest and constant prayers that God may bless Your Majesty with health and wisdom, and that You may reign long and happily over Your Peoples.

Given under our Common Seal this Third day of May One thousand nine hundred and fifty-five.

(signed)

Howard A. Gibson, Mayor.  
Raglan Somerset, Recorder.  
Tom L. Lawrence, High Sheriff.  
L. O. Need, Town Clerk.

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

I thank you, Mr. Mayor, for this loyal Address and the citizens of Gloucester for the warmth and friendliness of the welcome with which My Husband and I have been received.

We are both very glad that on our first visit to Gloucester we should be able to join with you on this memorable occasion when you are celebrating the grant of a Royal Charter, 800 years ago, by King Henry II.

I congratulate you on your long history and wish you all every success and good fortune in the years to come.

You will, I am confident, deserve that success. The prosperity of your industry, known even before the record of the Domesday Book was compiled, and the recent growth of many new enterprises within your boundaries, are sure signs that Gloucester, although so old, is still young and vigorous and retains that skill and imagination which for so long it used to develop its natural position to the advantage of its citizens.

The name of Gloucester was given added lustre recently by the courage of those members of My Services who carried it in the paths of duty in Korea, and I am indeed thankful that many of them were spared to receive in this City the expressions of pride and gratitude which it was your privilege to give them.

I feel sure that the men and women of Gloucester will always be keen and anxious to preserve the fame and fortune of their fair City.

Crown Office, House of Lords, S.W.1.

28th April, 1955.

The QUEEN has been pleased by Warrant under Her Royal Sign Manual dated the 28th day of April, 1955, to appoint His Honour Judge Thomas Frederick Southall to be Deputy Chairman of the Court of Quarter Sessions for the Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk in accordance with the provisions of the Administration of Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1938.

Treasury Chambers, S.W.1.

The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury hereby give notice that They have made an Order under Section 9 of the Finance Act, 1932, Section 7 of the Finance Act, 1934, Section 1 of the Import Duties (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1939, and Section 12 of the Finance Act, 1950, viz.:—

The Import Duties (Drawback) (No. 3) Order, 1955, which increases from 28s. to 32s. 6d. a cwt. the rate of drawback of Customs duty payable on imported unblanched shelled almonds used in the manufacture of certain descriptions of blanched almonds which are exported or shipped as stores; and adds roasted and salted almonds to the descriptions of exported blanched almonds on which such drawback is payable.

The Order comes into operation on the 6th May, 1955, and has been published as Statutory Instruments, 1955, No. 649.

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