

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We, the Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Oxford, approach Your Majesty in order to address to you our congratulations upon the most happy occasion, which is celebrated by your loyal subjects throughout your realm, of the Sixtieth Anniversary of your Accession to the Throne.

We reflect with deep satisfaction on the many close and historic links which bind our ancient University to the Royal Family. It is a matter of pride to us that we number among the holders of our Degree by Diploma, the highest honour which we can bestow, not only Your Majesty but also His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh and His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales. You follow the tradition graciously set by your Royal Predecessors, in accepting the office of Visitor of four Oxford Colleges, while His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh holds the same position in another of our Colleges. You have found many occasions to honour with your presence the most important and the most warmly felt of our days of celebration and remembrance. The presence of Your Majesty has been deeply appreciated by the whole University.

We are emboldened to believe that Your Majesty shares with us the desire to move in necessary and ungrudging accord with the changes of the times, but to move in such a way that we retain all that is best in the splendid traditions which we inherit from the past. We are proud of our international character and of our many long standing and treasured connections with other nations of the Commonwealth, and we draw encouragement from the attachment which Your Majesty has so consistently shown to the cause of the Commonwealth's unity and progress. We salute the unswerving devotion with which Your Majesty has dedicated yourself to the well being of your subjects, and we recognise with intense satisfaction that they in return feel for Your Majesty the warmest affection and regard.

We pray that you may be pleased to accept this assurance of the loyalty of the University. It is coupled with the earnest prayer that you may long be spared to reign over us and so continue to offer to all your people the inspiring example of your humanity, your devotion to duty, and your unfailing grace.

## The Loyal Address by Lord Patten of Barnes, Chancellor of the University of Oxford

