

Death of your Royal Father, our late most gracious Sovereign, whose Memory, on Account of his tender and indefatigable Care to preserve to us our Religious and Civil Liberties, must be for ever dear to all among us, who have a true Concern for either of them.

After a Loss so great, and so surprizing, nothing could have alleviated our Grief, and have raised in us again the greatest Pleasure, but the immediate Succession of a Prince to the Throne, inheriting all the Virtues of his Royal Father, and adorned with every good Quality that is requisite to make a King truly great, and a People happy: So that your Majesty's early Declaration in Council, that the Preservation of the Constitution in Church and State, as it is now happily established, should be your first, and always your chief Care, was an Instance of Royal Goodness, whereby you resolved to merit the Love and Affection of your People, rather than an Assurance they wanted to induce them to hope for the Continuance of so valuable a Blessing.

Permit us therefore, from a grateful and joyful Resentment of this your Goodness, to offer in your Presence the sincere Tenders of our most dutiful and affectionate Allegiance; and to acknowledge, with all Thankfulness, the good Providence of God, by whom Kings reign, in your peaceable and happy Accession to the Throne of your Ancestors. Since to omit this Acknowledgement must be unpardonable in your Clergy, who, besides the Honour of having your Majesty for the Defender of our most Holy Faith, have been graciously and firmly assured by you, that the Protection of the Church and Clergy, in the Enjoyment of their Rights and Privileges, shall be your particular Care thro' the whole Course of your Reign.

But besides the Personal Virtues and Assurances of your Majesty, we have, what was most wanting in former Times, an additional Security of our Happiness from our gracious Queen, a Consort worthy of yourself, a Friend to Piety and Virtue, and an Encourager of Learning; whose Judgment and Love of the Protestant Religion have been proved by the Temptations of a Crown, which Providence has now bestowed upon Her for a Reward of Her Integrity, and as an Earnest of a better that is reserved in Heaven for Her.

Nor have we a short and broken Prospect of these Blessings; We depend not absolutely for them on the sacred and precious Life of your Majesty, whilst we see a numerous Royal Issue, of the greatest Hopes, equal to their Birth and Education, who are the Love and Delight of the present Age, and remind us of that glorious Prince, who, by the settling the Succession in the illustrious House of Hanover, has fixed under the wonderful Providence of God, the strongest Barrier against Popery; has secured to us all that is dear and valuable to a free People; and, as we trust, has entailed upon us a Succession of National Blessings for Ages to come.

Under the most affecting and religious Sense of these Blessings, and our Duty, we

promise, both by Doctrine and Example, to propagate in the Minds of those committed to our Care; the truest Principles of Loyalty and Gratitude; never failing ourselves earnestly to pray to the King of Kings, that He may give your Majesty the Hearts of all your People, and make your Reign long and prosperous; directing and blessing, with Success, all your Counsels and Endeavours, so that you may perfect the great Work which was happily begun, and steadily pursued by your Royal Father, for the general Tranquility of Europe, for the Interest and Honour of these Nations, and for the Support of the Protestant Religion Abroad:

They were afterwards introduced to Her Majesty by the Right Honourable the Earl of Grantham Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household, and had all the Honour to kiss Her Majesty's Hand:

The following humble Address of the Mayor, Lord High Steward, Recorder, Steward, Aldermen and Capital Burgeses of the Borough of Stratford upon Avon, in the County of Warwick, has been presented to His Majesty by Henry Talbot, Esq; introduced by his Grace the Duke of Dorset High Steward of the said Borough. Which Address His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty,

The humble Address of the Mayor, Lord High Steward, Recorder, Steward, Aldermen and Capital Burgeses of your Majesty's ancient Borough of Stratford upon Avon, in the County of Warwick.

*Dread Sovereign,*

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, beg Leave at the same Time we deplore the Loss of our late most gracious Sovereign, of blessed Memory, to express our utmost Joy and Satisfaction in your Majesty's happy Succession to the Imperial Crown of these Realms, with the universal Applause of your Subjects.

Your Majesty's gracious Declaration of preserving our happy Constitution both in Church and State, hath filled our Hearts with Joy and Gladness, and will ever engage us in Interest as well as Duty to exert our utmost Endeavours in Defence of your Majesty's most sacred Person and Government.

May your Majesty, with your Royal Consort our most gracious Queen, long reign the Glory, Safety and Happiness of these Nations; and that there may never be wanting one sprung from your Royal Person to fill your Throne, are the hearty Prayers of,

Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects.

In Testimony whereof, we have hereunto affixed the common Seal of the said Borough, this 10th Day of July, in the First Year of your Majesty's most auspicious Reign.