

the name of King's Town-upon-Hull, we, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens, beg You to accept our assurance of loyal devotion and earnest welcome.

We esteem it a great and happy privilege that Your Majesties should receive our humble and loyal Address in this building of which Her Majesty laid the foundation-stone on the occasion of Your Majesties' well-remembered visit in 1903 as Prince and Princess of Wales.

We also rejoice at the occasion of Your Majesties' present visit, well recognising that the success of this the Third Port in Your Kingdom is closely interwoven with the successful completion of the vast undertaking to be distinguished to-day by Your Majesties. Together with Your Majesties' other subjects we have noted with great pleasure the constant evidence of Your interest in the commerce and the great commercial centres of the country, and also the encouragement Your Majesties ever give to every means of alleviating the sufferings of the sick and lifting the moral and intellectual standards of Your subjects both at home and in Your Majesties' dominions beyond the seas.

We earnestly pray that the blessing of the Almighty may rest upon Your Majesties and Your Royal House.

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

It has given the Queen and Myself the greatest pleasure to re-visit your ancient city, and We thank you very sincerely for your loyal and kind welcome.

We well remember Our visit in 1903, and We are glad to learn that, aided by its geographical position, Hull has continued to grow in size and prosperity, and to develop still further her overseas trade to the advantage of the great industrial districts of the North and of the country generally.

The new dock which I have come to inaugurate to-day will, I trust, mark the beginning of a period of still greater prosperity, and I congratulate you on the happy necessity which has required this extension of your commercial facilities.

I consented very readily to lay the foundation-stones of your new Sanatorium and School for Girls. The Queen and I feel a special interest in every measure which has for its object to relieve suffering or to promote the well-being of the community. The labour which you have expended in these causes will be richly repaid, and I wish a successful future to your new institutions.

Your city's high position on the roll of the great ports of My Kingdom has justified Me in complying with the application which has been made to Me, and I have very great pleasure in declaring that henceforth the Chief Magistrate and officer of the city shall bear the style and title of Lord Mayor of Kingston-upon-Hull. We highly appreciate your good wishes and assure you of Our continuing interest in the fortunes of your city.

JOINT DOCK COMMITTEE.

To Their Most Excellent Majesties the King and Queen.

May it please Your Majesties,

We, the Committee appointed by the North-Eastern and the Hull and Barnsley Railway Companies for the construction and management of their joint undertaking which Your Majesties have been graciously pleased to visit to-day, humbly desire to express our grateful sense of the favour shown to us, and to assure Your Majesties of our deep loyalty and affection.

Among the many Royal privileges granted to the inhabitants of Hull (the Third Port in the United Kingdom) since it was created a Royal Borough by King Edward I., we recall with especial gratitude the auspicious visit of Your illustrious predecessor Queen Victoria, accompanied by His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, in 1854. In memory of that visit, the old Dock, dating from 1778, and the Junction Dock, from 1829, were graciously permitted by Her Majesty to be called thenceforth the Queen's Dock and the Prince's Dock, Her own ever-memorable name having already been given by Her to the Victoria Dock, opened with a Royal salute from the Citadel in 1850.

In 1869 Your Revered Father and Your August Mother, then Prince and Princess of Wales, graciously consented to open the Albert Dock of the North-Eastern Railway Company. In 1885 the Alexandra Dock of the Hull and Barnsley Railway Company was named after the Princess. The great honour now conferred by Your Majesties upon the united enterprise of these two companies by Your presence here will be the more precious to us if Your Majesty will consent to confer on this new dock a name commemorating your visit, which we presume to regard as another example of Your interest in all that pertains to the welfare and prosperity of Your people.

We pray that Your Majesties may long be spared to reign in health and happiness over a loyal and prosperous people.

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

The Queen and I have accepted with much pleasure the invitation to be present at to-day's ceremony when I open the new Dock of the Joint Committee of the North-Eastern and the Hull and Barnsley Railway Companies, and We thank you heartily for the loyal and dutiful Address which you have presented on their behalf.

The welfare of this country has for long been bound up with the prosperity of its sea-borne trade, and I follow with close interest the never-ceasing progress and development of our ports and of the great merchant navy on which our commerce depends. It was therefore a deep satisfaction to Me to know that the rapid growth in recent years of the trade of Hull with all parts of the world, and the increasing number of vessels that enter and leave its port, have impelled you to increase your shipping