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Address of his Majesty's Consul and the Members of the British Factory at Leghorn to the Honourable William Frederick Wyndham, his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary at the Court of Florence, published at the request of the Factory.

SIR,

Leghorn, July 4, 1797:

We, the Consul and Members of the British Factory of Leghorn, being returned to our place of residence, and for the first time legally assembled, embrace with pleasure the earliest opportunity to express our greatest acknowledgments to you, Sir, for the kind concern you have ever been pleased to shew towards our welfare and prosperity. But we feel ourselves more particularly called upon to mark our gratitude for the zeal and activity you displayed last year in discovering and communicating to us the execrable intentions of the French army to violate the neutrality of Tuscany, and seize upon the property, as well of the English nation as of the English individuals in this place. To your advice, Sir, and to that alone, is due the merit of saving all the English merchantmen in our port, besides the property embarked on these and other vessels, making in all a convoy of forty-nine sail, that departed from hence for Corfica on the 27th of June last year: And had it not been for a notification of the Government of this city, published only forty hours before the entrance of the French troops, declaring that the rumours spread of their coming here were false, and informing the inhabitants in general of its having had Ministerial assurances that the neutrality of Tuscany would be respected,

much more would have been saved. But considering the force of the said notification, which kept people in suspense until it was too late, by the rapid approach of the enemy, and the confusion incident to so extraordinary and unprecedented a case, it was to be rather wondered at that so much was done in the short space of sixty hours, including the Jews and Christian Sabbath.

To commemorate the epoch of these eminent services and our obligations and gratitude, we have desired one of our members, now in London; to get a piece of plate prepared, with an inscription engraved upon it suitable to the purpose and occasion, and whereof we shall, in due time, request your acceptance.

We have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, Sir,

Your most obliged and obedient humble servants,

John Udney, Consul.

James Partridge.

Rob. Porter.

John Webb.

Thomas Pollard.

Simon Frazer.

Thomas Panton,

George Darby.

Daniel Ragueneau.

Charles Bird.

Isaac Grant.

The Hon. William Frederick Wyndham, his Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary at Florence, &c. &c.