



The Edinburgh Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1862.

WHITEHALL, February 20, 1862.

THE following Address of Condolence, on the occasion of the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Consort, which has been transmitted to the Right Honourable Sir George Grey, Baronet, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, has been laid before the Queen by Sir George Grey, and has been received very graciously by Her Majesty:—

To The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

We, your Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, incorporated by Royal Charter, humbly beg leave to approach your Majesty with the assurance of our devotion to your Throne and Royal Person, and of our deepest sympathy with your Majesty in the most grievous affliction which has, by the will of Providence, recently befallen your Majesty and the whole Nation in the death of your Majesty's august Consort, our much loved and revered President.

The great conception of the International Exhibition of 1851, for the promotion of which we were originally appointed by your Majesty, was due to his Royal Highness. A conception at once so novel and so comprehensive was only gradually understood and appreciated by the country at large; and there was reason to fear, so great were the difficulties to be overcome and prejudices to be encountered, that the design itself might have resulted in failure, had not the same mind which originally conceived it watched over the whole process of its organization, and guided and directed its gradual development.

As an illustration of the unwearied assiduity with which His Royal Highness applied himself to the realization of this great scheme, we humbly take leave to mention that he never failed to preside over the numerous meetings of the Commission (except on one or two occasions when it met for formal business only) in the two years over which the original labours of the Commission ex-

tended, and in the ten years which have subsequently elapsed. His Royal Highness, with similar regularity, presided over many important Committees of our body, was daily occupied in superintending the various details of our proceedings, and was in constant communication with all classes interested in the undertaking.

The remarkable success which attended the Exhibition of 1851 induced your Majesty graciously to direct the issue to us of a Supplementary Charter, giving us full power to dispose of the large surplus which that success had left in our hands in accordance with such scheme as might be devised by us; and under that Charter we now continue to exist as a permanent Corporation. In our new, and our original position, the advantages derived from His Royal Highness's enlightened views and deep interest in all matters relating to Science and the Arts were equally felt. On the Kensington Gore Estate, purchased by us, there have already sprung into existence the important Government Department of Science and Art, the Gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society, and the buildings of the proposed International Exhibition of 1862 (the natural and necessary complement of the Exhibition of 1851), in respect of each of which the effects of the fostering care of His Royal Highness are plainly discernible to all.

Irreparable as will be to us the loss of His Royal Highness's assistance in the discharge of the important duties graciously intrusted to us by your Majesty, it will be more than ever incumbent on us, animated by his example and reverencing his memory, to continue our exertions to perform those duties to your Majesty's satisfaction; and it is our earnest prayer that your Majesty—soothed by the remembrance of the good deeds of him of whom your Majesty has been thus prematurely bereft, and of the life devoted by him to assist in promoting the happiness and well-being of your Majesty's subjects—sustained by the love of an united family—and strong in the affections of a