

"The presence of my august Allies, their moderation in the moment of victory, and the harmony which subsists between the restorers and the restored, are the best pledge of the duration of that peace, which is the reward of all our efforts and sacrifices. It will always be my earnest wish to consolidate and maintain it. May it long continue to diffuse over this ancient seat of learning and religion, the means of cultivating those arts and sciences which are its best and brightest ornament."

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT

WE, the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the City of Oxford, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with our humble congratulations upon your Royal Highness's arrival in this city, in company with your august Allies, the Sovereigns of Russia and Prussia, an event which forms a proud era in the history of this our ancient and loyal Corporation. Upon this occasion, Sir, our attention is naturally called to the course of recent transactions. We cannot forbear to hold in grateful recollection those wise, firm and vigorous counsels of your Royal Highness, which have led to the present successful issue of the most momentous contest in which this country was ever engaged, which, throughout the whole of your Royal Highness's Government, have uniformly inspired the bravery of your forces by sea and land, directed the resources, maintained the glory, and at length, under the Providence of God, achieved the security of this rich and populous Empire.

But, Sir, gratifying as is the retrospect of late achievements, we have yet also a higher source, if possible, for enjoyment, in the contemplation of the great blessing of peace, whereby, in conjunction with your Allies, you have terminated the doubtful chances of war. Whilst we have beheld with inexpressible delight the defeat of insatiable ambition, and the overthrow of a tyranny which almost annihilated the liberties of Continental Europe, whilst we participate in the rejoicings of those countries which are hailing the re-establishment of legitimate government, and the restoration of national independence, we cannot withhold from your Royal Highness our admiration of the true and exalted wisdom displayed in the grand features of our adjustment with France. If we may be permitted, upon this subject, to express with freedom the impression upon our minds, we should say, that in the late pacification your Royal Highness has united a due regard to the power and the interests of the Empire, with a frank and generous disinterestedness. In the voluntary restitution of conquests which no power on earth could have wrested from your dominion, your Royal Highness has given a noble example of all oblivion of hostile feeling, of magnanimous indifference to aggrandizement, and a pledge, the most sincere that can be, of having made peace in the true spirit of peace.

By this wise and moderate course your Royal Highness has attained the inestimable advantage of placing upon a solid and durable foundation the repose of Europe, at the same time also that you have still more increased the lustre of our national character.

Under these happy circumstances the loyal subjects of these realms, justly proud of their invaluable institutions, and devotedly attached to that patriotic line of Princes, under whose mild administration the country has reached an unexampled height of grandeur, whilst it has enjoyed without interruption the blessings of liberty, cannot but join in one universal wish, that your Royal Highness may long continue to administer the Government of a free and prosperous Empire; and that your Royal Highness, still emulating the example of our beloved and revered Monarch, may, like him, live in the hearts, and be regarded as the father of your people.

Given under the common seal of the City, this fourteenth day of June 1814.

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

WE, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, and Freeholders, of the county of Oxford, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with our most unfeigned expressions of duty and attachment to your Royal Person and Government.

We also humbly beg leave to offer to your Royal Highness, our heartfelt congratulations on the successful and glorious termination of the long and arduous contest in which we have been lately engaged, an event which we must attribute, under the blessings of Divine Providence, to the wise, vigorous, and determined measures adopted by our revered Sovereign your august Father, and persevered in by your Royal Highness, with equal wisdom and firmness; to the undaunted bravery and transcendent abilities of your naval and military commanders, to the faithful, unremitted, and valiant exertions of your fleets and armies, and to the cordial and spirited co-operation of all your people. And we do not hesitate to state with confidence, that your Royal Highness is justly entitled to the high satisfaction of reflecting, that you have not only asserted, protected, and secured the rights and honour of your own dominions, but also that you have contributed, in a very essential degree, by your example and support, to the independence, the honour, and the welfare of the whole civilized world.

We further beg leave to express to your Royal Highness our grateful acknowledgments for affording us an opportunity of expressing, personally, our high veneration and respect for those great and illustrious Sovereigns who have shared, with your Royal Highness, the merit and the glories of the late most important and splendid events, and who, after repelling from their own dominions the insults and injuries of an atrocious enemy, have carried their victorious arms into other countries for the laudable and generous purpose of rescuing them from the bondage of a despotic tyrant, and of conferring upon them the blessings of legitimate Government, security and peace.

Lastly, Sir, we humbly thank you for permitting to us the occasion of expressing our most sincere and warmest admiration of those brave and highly distinguished Generals of our august Allies, who, actuated like our own Generals, by the most ardent feelings of patriotism and duty, have, in defiance