

To His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, REGENT of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

May it please your Royal Highness,

WE, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Inhabitants of the Borough and Parish of Buckingham (convened on the summons of the Bailiff), beg leave to congratulate your Royal Highness on the late favourable change of affairs, and the happy return of peace to Europe, after the most unprincipled and destructive war that ever desolated the civilized world.

This memorable event may chiefly be attributed, under Providence, to the wisdom and firmness of His Majesty's councils, which, at a time when nearly the whole of Europe lay prostrate at the feet of one ambitious tyrant, enabled Britain to stand forth, single and unaided, the protector of the oppressed, and the liberator of the enslaved.

We cannot approach your Royal Highness, under these happy circumstances, without humbly expressing our unbounded gratitude to your Royal Highness for having so closely followed the example of your illustrious father. By pursuing that course, in which our beloved Sovereign had so long and arduously contended, your Royal Highness, under the favour of a kind and over-ruling Providence, has crowned the designs of His Majesty with success, and the efforts of his people with victory and peace. We cannot but wish, while we lament the inefficacy of our wishes, that the father of his people could now receive the thankful congratulations of his children. We know how he would share in our joy; how he, who bore so large a portion of our fatigue, would delight in our repose; our minds rejoice even in this faint contemplation of him, who, having witnessed the noble self-denial and perseverance of his country in her conflict, would at once have recommended and applauded the moderation of her triumph. For this moderation, which holds forth the surer promise of lasting tranquillity, your Royal Highness challenges our warmest praise, particularly at a time when we are giving utterance to our gratitude for your Royal Highness's perseverance in that active system of policy and wisdom, which has wrought so glorious a consummation as well for Britain as the whole of Europe.

Britain, after a struggle the most vigorous, of more than twenty years continuance, has been raised to a height of prosperity unparalleled amongst the nations of the world. Her naval fame stands unrivalled; her armies are victorious over the chief legions and captains of the age; and her honour remains unsullied. But beside these just calls on our gratitude, we are happy in congratulating your Royal Highness on the internal prospect of our country. Although our coasts and villages have so long been familiar with the ensigns of war, and our eyes ceased to be strangers to the emblems of military power, the moral and religious character of our country has acquired new vigour and a higher tone; and peace, revisiting her ancient abodes, will find, that amid all the gloom and perils of the awful trial, the true principles of civil liberty have continued unbroken and inviolate.

For Europe also, and in her for the world itself,

this glorious consummation, for which we are so highly indebted to your Royal Highness, has wrought a happy liberation from the most galling tyranny. For some wise purposes of Providence, servitude seems to have been the temporary need of the Continent. England was preserved, and in her magnanimity stood forth the ready Ally of all who chose to vindicate their liberty. We now again behold what we had almost despaired of seeing realised, that happy equilibrium restored among the Powers of Europe, which our greatest and most enlightened Statesmen have held necessary to the tranquillity and social welfare of the world.

That your Royal Highness may enjoy the gratitude and affection of a free, united, and happy people to the latest period of your life, is our most ardent prayer.

Signed by order, and on behalf of the Meeting,
John Bartlett, Chairman.

Buckingham, June 30, 1814.

[Transmitted by Selby Lowndes, Esq. and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

May it please Your Royal Highness,

WE, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects the Gentlemen, Clergy, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the County of Huntingdon, beg leave to approach the throne, that we may express to your Royal Highness, our sentiments on the termination of those various and extensive evils, which have for so many years convulsed and desolated the continent of Europe, by the late happy restoration of a long wished for peace.

In approaching your Royal Highness at this auspicious moment, we cannot refrain from expressing the satisfaction with which we reflect upon the uniform perseverance manifested by all descriptions of His Majesty's subjects, during every period of the late arduous and protracted struggle, against the greatest military despotism which ever assailed the independence of modern Europe.

We shall be always ready to promote to the utmost of our power, your Royal Highness's endeavours to maintain that balance of power upon the continent of Europe, which is so essential to the welfare and security of these realms.

In thus approaching your Royal Highness, to express our sentiments of sincere gratitude, for the blessings of peace, restored by your Royal Highness, under Divine Providence, to the subjects of these happy realms, we cannot forbear entreating your Royal Highness to extend to the unfortunate nations of Africa the beneficial effects of your powerful influence with the nations of Europe, in procuring at the approaching congress, an universal and as speedy as possible, abolition of that nefarious traffic in man, which has so long kept the ill-fated population of that country in degraded barbarism and unparalleled misery.

Signed in the name and on the behalf of the Meeting,
J. Page, Sheriff.

[Transmitted by W. H. Fellows, Esq. M. P. and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.]