

petuate those affections which prove that a whole nation can feel, as though it were one family.

Signed, on behalf of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Borough of Tavistock and its Vicinity. *William Gill, Portreeve.*

December 16, 1817.

[*Transmitted by the Duke of Bedford, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

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

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Recorder, High Steward, Bailiffs, Aldermen, Burgesses, and Inhabitants of the Borough of Dorchester, in the County of Dorset, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with the unfeigned expression of our most sincere and heartfelt condolence, on the irreparable loss which your Royal Highness and the nation have sustained by the death of your Royal Highness's illustrious and ever-to-be-lamented daughter, the Princess Charlotte of Wales.

While we deeply deplore the melancholy event which has at once deprived the kingdom of its fairest ornament and its future hope, we trust your Royal Highness will derive some alleviation of your grief, from the universal sympathy which pervades all ranks of His Majesty's loyal subjects; and with renewed assurances of our ardent attachment to your Royal Highness's Person and Government, we earnestly pray, that there may never be wanting a descendant of the Illustrious House of Brunswick to wield the sceptre of these realms.

Morgan Yeatman, Mayor.

[*Transmitted by the Mayor, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

May it please your Royal Highness,

WE, His Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Mayor, Burgesses, and Inhabitants of the Borough and Parish of Barnstaple and its Neighbourhood, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with sentiments of affectionate attachment and unfeigned condolence on the recent visitation of Providence, which has fallen so heavily on your Royal Highness, and rendered the whole empire a scene of unaffected sorrow and mourning.

The deprivation which you, Sir, have so peculiarly to deplore, is doubtless to be numbered among the severest and sharpest calamities of life; and, although we would cautiously avoid any expression that might tend to revive or aggravate your sense of the immense and irreparable loss which has wrung your paternal heart with anguish; yet, we cannot but become sharers in your sorrows, when we reflect on the high interests involved in the fate of your illustrious and ever-to-be-lamented daughter; and contemplate the virtues and accomplishments that distinguished her, and threw a glory over even the duties and obligations of her exalted station.

Over hopes and expectations so grievously frustrated by her demise, we may be allowed to mourn, though we venture not to question the procedure

of Him, who in his severest dispensations ever exercises mercy, and, if properly improved by us, will direct them to our good: besides the consolations of religion, we presume to suggest to your Royal Highness a source of no inconsiderable comfort, in the strong testimonies of loyal and affectionate attachment, which this mournful Providence has universally called forth to you and your Illustrious House.

We will trespass on your Royal Highness no further, than to assure you of our most earnest intreaty to the Almighty, to comfort and support you in this season of bitter affliction, and in restoring you to health and happiness, to continue to us the inestimable blessings of that wise and constitutional Government, under which we have so much reason to rejoice.

Signed, at the request of the Meeting,
Samuel Bremridge, Mayor.

Barnstaple, Dec. 15, 1817.

[*Transmitted by Henry Drake, Esq. the Town Clerk, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

WE, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Freeholders of the County of Durham, beg leave to express to your Royal Highness our deep affliction at the melancholy event which has so suddenly deprived your Royal Highness of a beloved daughter; His Serene Highness Prince Leopold of a virtuous, highly accomplished, and affectionate wife; and these realms of a Princess, through whom we entertained hopes that the succession to them would be long continued in your Royal Highness's posterity.

Though these hopes have unfortunately been disappointed, it is not for us to arraign or scrutinize the ways of Providence, but, with humble submission to the Divine Will, we pray that the Almighty may enable your Royal Highness, and His Serene Highness Prince Leopold, to support, with pious resignation, this sudden, severe, and trying calamity.

If the sympathy of a free, loyal, and generous people can in any degree tend to alleviate the poignant grief of your Royal Highness, and of your distressed son-in-law, never was it more universally, nor more sincerely manifested than on the present mournful occasion, which must prove to the world in what a high degree His Majesty's faithful subjects participate in every thing that concerns the welfare of your Illustrious House, how firm their allegiance is to their revered Sovereign, and how zealous their attachment to your Royal Highness, to whom may the Almighty grant a life full of years and glory.

W. Hutchinson, High Sheriff.

[*Transmitted by W. Hutchinson, Esq. High Sheriff for the County, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, REGENT of the United Kingdom.

May it please your Royal Highness,

WE, his Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, and Freeholders of the