

ferers; but we rely firmly upon the wisdom of your Royal Highness for the adoption of such measures as may, with the aid of Divine Providence, be best calculated to relieve that distress. We also contemplate, with an anxiety equally great, the insidious attempts of those enemies to their country, who seek to take advantage of these sufferings, and to excite the people of these realms to discontent and disaffection, striving by the dissemination of the most blasphemous and seditious pamphlets and writings, first to undermine those moral and religious feelings from which our greatest consolation in adversity is derived: and then, by taking advantage of human weakness, without these aids, to make the distressed the instruments for effecting their revolutionary machinations.

Still, however, we rely confidently upon the known fidelity and loyalty of our countrymen; and most sincerely do we hope and trust that they will, with ourselves, view with the utmost detestation and abhorrence these diabolical attempts to awaken a jealousy of that Government which we are well convinced has no other end than the happiness of the subject, and the welfare and prosperity of these kingdoms.

In conclusion, we beg to assure your Royal Highness of our unalterable determination firmly to resist these mischievous attempts, and to unite heart and hand, in the protection of our Sovereign and Constitution, our laws and liberties, our rights and our possessions; and that it is the first and most anxious hope and prayer of His Majesty's dutiful subjects, who now humbly offer these assurances of their loyal attachment and fidelity, that your Royal Highness may enjoy the happiness of witnessing a speedy restoration of the most perfect and lasting tranquillity.

*Richard Nicholson, Common Clerk.*

[*Transmitted by Charles Harrison, Esq. the Recorder, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

Declaration of the Magistrates, Clergy, and Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood of Ripon.

WE, the Magistrates, Clergy, and Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood of Ripon, feeling ourselves imperiously called upon at this eventful crisis unequivocally to declare our sentiments, are anxious in the first place to testify our firm and immovable attachment to His Majesty's Royal Person and Government, and to the existing institutions of the Realm, Civil and Religious, as by law established.

We venerate these institutions, which have originated in the wisdom of our forefathers and which the experience of ages hath approved; and, having lived long and happily under the protection of our excellent laws, we neither wish for nor seek any change, either in the spirit or form of our inestimable Constitution, which ensures to us all the freedom and liberty which the regulations of civilized society will allow, and secures to us the enjoyment of our rights, our property, and every blessing dear to us as Englishmen.

At the same time we deeply deplore the distress which many of our fellow subjects have at this moment to encounter, and most sincerely do we

commiserate their situation and feel for the sufferers; but we rely firmly upon the wisdom of your Royal Highness for the adoption of such measures as may, with the aid of Divine Providence, be best calculated to relieve that distress. We also contemplate, with an anxiety equally great, the insidious attempts of those enemies to their country who seek to take advantage of these sufferings, and to excite the people of these realms to discontent and disaffection, striving by the dissemination of the most blasphemous and seditious pamphlets and writings, first to undermine those moral and religious feelings, from which our greatest consolation in adversity is derived; and then, by taking advantage of human weakness without these aids, to make the distressed the instruments for effecting their revolutionary machinations.

Still, however, we rely confidently upon the known fidelity and loyalty of our countrymen; and most sincerely do we hope and trust that they will, with ourselves, view with the utmost detestation and abhorrence these diabolical attempts to awaken a jealousy of that Government, which we are well convinced has no other end than the happiness of the subject and the welfare and prosperity of these kingdoms.

Under these circumstances we feel that we cannot too strongly testify our unalterable determination firmly to resist these mischievous attempts, and to unite heart and hand in the support and protection of our Sovereign and Constitution, our laws and liberties, our rights and our possessions. We therefore mutually pledge ourselves to such unity, and anxiously hope for a speedy restoration of the most perfect and lasting tranquillity.

*John Britain, Mayor of Ripon.*

[*Transmitted by Charles Harrison, Esq. Recorder, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the Borough of Preston, in the county-palatine of Lancaster, in Common Council assembled, humbly beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with the assurances of our devotion and loyalty to your Royal Highness's illustrious Family, and of unfeigned attachment to the Constitution of these realms.

Justly proud of the excellence of that form of Government under which we have the happiness to live; and truly grateful for the protection which under Providence it has afforded to our civil and religious rights.

We assure your Royal Highness that we will at all times use our best endeavours to guard it against every innovation that may endanger its stability, or deprive us of those blessings which we have long enjoyed under the mild and equitable Government of our beloved Sovereign.

With these impressions on our minds it is not without serious apprehension that we have seen the unceasing efforts of wicked and designing men, to alienate His Majesty's subjects from their loyalty to their King; to inculcate disrespect for established authorities; to circulate immoral and blas-