

best principles of our laws to prejudge the conduct of Magistrates, and before we know what they may have to alledge to censure experienced and honourable men, acting in situations of great responsibility during these times of difficulty and disorder.

Happy under that revered Constitution which has for so many ages protected our properties, our liberties, and our lives, we seek no change, nor as friends to our country and to good order can we see with indifference the lowest of the people arrogating to themselves the power of reforming the laws, and the right of determining the measure of their submission to them.

Convinced therefore as we are of the mischievous and criminal designs and machinations of those, who, under the specious pretext of reform and liberty, are industriously circulating blasphemous and seditious publications with a view of poisoning the minds of the unwary, and of detaching them from their duty to God, and their allegiance to their Sovereign. We feel it incumbent upon us to repeat our attachment to your Royal Highness, the solemn assurance of our fidelity and loyalty to the King, our firm adherence to the Constitution, and our determination to enforce to the utmost of our power the due execution of the laws against all who, by their writings or otherwise, shall endanger the public tranquillity by their endeavours to incite the ignorant and the poor to acts of sedition and violence.

Signed, in our Guildhall, this 20th day of October 1819.

Chas. Morgan, Mayor.

[Transmitted by the Worshipful the Mayor, 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 most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Burgesses, and Inhabitants of the Borough and Town of Marlborough, in the County of Wilts, humbly beg to offer to your Royal Highness our sentiments of respect and loyalty, and to express our unshaken attachment to the principles of our Constitution, as well as to the Family of which your Royal Highness is the august Representative.

While we approach your Royal Highness with feelings of sympathy for the privations of those who, from unforeseen causes, are labouring under difficulties, which we anxiously hope will be only of temporary duration, we cannot but at the same time avow our abhorrence and detestation of the unconstitutional means of redress resorted to by factious and unprincipled men, means which, if successful, must necessarily add to the distresses we lament, inasmuch as they must eventually terminate in the destruction of the Constitution, the subversion of all law, and the annihilation of every social blessing. We view, with still more lively abhorrence, the impious attempts which have been made, by blasphemous publications, to sap the foundations of religion, and to desecrate, in the eyes of the people, the Holy Scriptures, thereby depriving us of our best hopes, dissolving the bonds

of civil society, and conducting us to universal anarchy.

At a crisis thus alarming, and pregnant with events destructive alike to the interests of individuals, and the well-being of society, we feel it an imperative duty upon us, as men duly appreciating the blessings under which we live, to assure your Royal Highness of our determination to resist every unconstitutional attempt of the factious and designing; fully confiding in the vigilant and paternal solicitude of your Royal Highness, for the welfare of these realms, in the efficacy of our laws, and in the purity of their administration.

John Brinsden, Mayor.

[Transmitted by the Earl of Ailesbury, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

WE, the Bailiffs, Recorder, Aldermen, Town Clerk, Burgesses, and other Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood of Bridgnorth, approach your Royal Highness with sentiments of lament and indignation at the present irritated and tumultuous state of various parts of the country, and the despicable and odious characters of the promoters of so much dread confusion.

Sensible of the high privileges which we enjoy in being blessed with the light of that Gospel whose dictates are not only peace and good will but subjection to constituted law and authority, we cannot contemplate without horror and dismay the spread of those impious, blasphemous, and seditious publications so daringly defended, and with a depravity unexampled urged by men of wicked principles and desperate fortunes, as instruments whereby they may insidiously undermine and dissolve every religious tie and every moral virtue; men who, under the specious pretext of a chimerical reform, take advantage of partial commercial pressure to instigate their misled followers to insurrection and rebellion, aiming to derive from anarchy, both worldly advantage and notoriety. These, Sir, we will oppose and circumvent to the utmost of our power; we will mark disaffection, and correct infidelity. We are convinced that the majority of the people, notwithstanding prevalent delusion, are well affected to your Royal Highness's august House, and to our excellent Constitution in Church and State. We will endeavour to impress them with a just sense of all the benefits which they thence derive, and to make them alive to the evils of sedition, and the dangers of corrupt and irreligious advisers; thus fixing in them a determined resolution to stand firm in defence of the Throne and the Altar, and carefully to avoid all appearance of insubordination. We are perfectly confident that your Royal Highness will never be led to authorise or approve any measures which are not strictly constitutional, but while we are sensible how much active and vigorous exertions appertain to the duties of those who are intrusted to guard the peace of the country, and since our information must at best be very imperfect, we will not insult your Royal Highness by illtimed and unnecessary remarks upon such acts as are yet to be judged by that great and real bulwark of our freedom, trial by jury. We are fully assured that your