

afflicted so considerable a portion of our fellow-subjects.

But we lament, far more deeply, that among a people, hitherto distinguished by their regard for the duties of civil society, of morality, and of religion, there should be found men capable of the enormous wickedness of arraying our suffering fellow-citizens against the venerable institutions under which Britain has flourished for ages; of conspiring, under the specious pretext of reform, to plunge this happy country in anarchy and ruin, and even of deliberately endeavouring the subversion of our holy religion.

The distresses of the people, we hope and trust, will speedily pass away, and be forgotten; but the lapse of ages will hardly efface the stain which the crimes of these guilty men have affixed on our national character.

We feel an unshaken reliance on the wisdom and the firmness of your Royal Highness that the powers entrusted to you by the Constitution will be employed effectually in checking the spirit of disaffection, which has been so extensively manifested.

And we trust also, that the wisdom of Parliament will be successfully employed in devising the necessary measures for relieving the distresses, and allaying the distractions of the nation.

But, above all, we have the most assured confidence that the mass of the British people is untainted by the poison of disloyalty and of infidelity; and that, at this season of peril and alarm, all who know and value the privileges of Britons and of Christians will, with one heart and hand, stand forward to defend them.

While we rejoice that public opinion can make itself heard for good as well as for evil, we trust that, ere long, when the frantic clamours of faction are drowned in the general voice of patriotism and of loyalty, the efforts of the disaffected will appear as contemptible and impotent, as they are atrociously wicked.

That the Government and Legislature may be directed, by a wise Providence, to those measures which may best secure the peace and prosperity of our country, and that your Royal Highness may long rule in the hearts of a faithful and loyal people, is our earnest prayer.

Signed, in presence and by authority of the Magistrates and Town Council of Haddington assembled, at Haddington the 28th day of October 1819. *Thos. Pringle, Provost.*

[Transmitted by the Provost, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

The humble Address of the University of Glasgow.

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Rector, Principal, and Professors of the University of Glasgow, beg permission at the present moment of turbulence and alarm, to approach your Royal Highness with assurances of our profound respect for your Royal Person, and of our attachment to that admirable Constitution in Church and State, which you have been called upon by Providence to administer.

We have seen with deep regret, the distress in which some orders of the people are involved, by one of those fluctuations of trade which must occasionally occur in a commercial country; and we hope your Royal Highness will do us the justice to believe, that, in conjunction with others of His Majesty's subjects, we shall spare no exertion which humanity prompts and prudence recommends, to relieve the innocent and unfortunate part of the community. We have also seen with astonishment and abhorrence, the cruel and insidious attempts which are indefatigably making to aggravate the calamity of the sufferers, by taking advantage of their distress to irritate their feelings into a malignant and menacing discontent, and to rob them of the best consolations in adversity, by misleading them into a hatred of that faith, on which their eternal hopes and of those salutary laws on which their temporal comforts essentially depend. While we rejoice to think that few above the lowest rank are so destitute of understanding or benevolence, as to countenance this conspiracy against human happiness, we cannot shut our eyes to the facility with which a large proportion of the ignorant and uninstructed suffer themselves to be seduced by doctrines which ought to be impotent from their absurdity, and by guides whose meanness, both of character and talent, betrays the lamentable weakness of their followers; and this fact convinces us, that to protect these infatuated men from the ruinous consequences of their own folly, by a strict but constitutional controul, is the most important benefit which they can at present receive. We have no doubt that this controul will be applied by the Legislature, with so firm and temperate a hand, that the measures adopted will receive the support of all who have ability to discern and virtue to promote the real interests of the country, and consequently of every class of its inhabitants. It shall be our care to co-operate with the great body of our loyal and intelligent countrymen, by watching over the moral and religious principles of the youth committed to our charge, and by training them in those habits of just reasoning, which will shew them that obedience to equitable laws is indispensable for securing the portion of liberty compatible with human imperfection; and that acquiescence in the will of Providence, which assigns to men a diversity of stations, proportioned to the virtuous exertions of themselves or their ancestors, is the most necessary constituent of national and individual happiness.

That Almighty God may minister his divine consolations to the mind of our Most Gracious Sovereign the King; that he may bless your Royal Highness, and direct and prosper your Councils in the administration of the Government of these realms; and that our invaluable Constitution may be handed down inviolate to late posterity, is our earnest prayer.

Signed in our name, and by our appointment, the University seal being appended, at Glasgow College, 25th October 1819,

*Montrose; William Taylor, Vice-Chancellor and Principal.*

[Transmitted by His Grace the Duke of Montrose, K. G. and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.]