

sedition, whose measures have been thwarted while by traversing the indictments against them they have succeeded in hitherto avoiding that regular investigation which can alone decisively prove their guilt or innocence, and demonstrate to the public the propriety or impropriety of that conduct which has been so arraigned.

Such proceedings cannot command the free and honest assent of dispassionate men, but they may and will produce the unhappy effects of inflaming the unthinking and of encouraging the disaffected; we for our parts protest against them, inconsistent as we deem them with candour and with justice to the parties concerned, and (what is of more importance), pregnant with consequences the most dangerous to the existence of the Constitution and to the enjoyment of liberty itself, and we consider it a fit occasion for humbly expressing to your Royal Highness our steady loyalty to His Majesty, our firm confidence in the wisdom of your Royal Highness's councils, and our determination to afford all the support in our power to such measures as may be necessary for preserving the public tranquillity and rendering abortive the machinations of designing and seditious men.

*James Montgomery, Preses.*

[*Transmitted by Sir James Montgomery, Bart. and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

To His Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT.

The dutiful and loyal Address of the Noblemen, Freeholders, Justices of Peace, and Commissioners of Supply of the County of Ayr.

*May it please your Royal Highness,*

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Noblemen, Freeholders, Justices of Peace, and Commissioners of Supply of the Shire of Ayr, feel it our duty at this time to approach the Throne, with a declaration of our loyal attachment to the established institutions of these kingdoms, in opposition to the principles and practices by which their security is now in danger, and the peace of society disturbed.

We beg to repeat our sentiments of loyalty and attachment to your Royal Highness's sacred person, and to the established laws of the realm, and our determination to preserve to the utmost of our power those civil and religious institutions which have conferred upon ourselves so many blessings, and which we trust shall be the inheritance of our latest posterity.

With these feelings and resolutions, we remain, may it please your Royal Highness, His Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, the Noblemen, Freeholders, Justices of Peace, and Commissioners of Supply of the Shire of Ayr.

Signed by our Preses, in our name and by our appointment, at Ayr, the 29th day of October 1819.  
*J. Montgomerie, Preses.*

[*Transmitted by General James Montgomerie, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.*]

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

*May it please your Royal Highness,*

WE, His Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Inhabitants and Land Owners of the Parish of St. David's, in the County of the City of Exeter, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness at the present eventful period, when every indication is presented of a systematic plan of proceedings for subverting the existing Government.

We feel it a duty imperative upon every loyal subject publicly to avow his attachment to the Constitution, and his abhorrence of the numerous concurrent attempts which are made to overthrow it. We have particularly contemplated with the deepest concern the erroneous views, which have been so extensively entertained, respecting the causes which have occasioned the distresses of the manufacturing classes of the community; persuaded that they are principally to be traced to the transition from a state of war to that of peace, and the consequent numerical augmentation of labourers and artificers at home, together with a revival of commerce and manufactures in other countries, the competition of foreign markets, and the increase of shipping in distant parts of Europe.

We regret the mistaken ideas, which are so sedulously inculcated, respecting the alledged expediency of expunging the national debt, in the fallacious hope of improving the condition of the poor; convinced in the first place, that were so flagrant a breach of public justice and of national faith to be committed, not the smallest loan could ever be obtained on the greatest emergency; and equally convinced in the next place that the execution of the specious project would defeat its alledged object, inasmuch as the extinction of funded property would preclude the most powerful encouragement to individuals to accumulate a capital, to be subsequently embarked in a manufacturing establishment, through which employment and maintenance are provided for the poor.

We are satisfied that the labouring classes will derive the most serious injury instead of benefit from being convened by aspiring demagogues to political meetings; partly from being drawn off from their honest occupations, and by their acquiring habits of idleness, partly by being deluded by misrepresentation, excited to insubordination, and primed for insurrection; but principally by their imbibing seditious principles, which, without receiving some effectual check, can only lead to overt acts of treason, rebellion, and civil war.

We perceive with the sincerest sorrow, the adoption of the very same means in this country as were resorted to in France, Germany, and other States, for accomplishing the overthrow of their respective Governments; the dissemination of infidel and blasphemous publications, with a view to remove any check from the operation of religious principles to the successful termination of seditious and traitorous designs, subversive of the best interests of civilized society.

We strongly reprobate the fallacious system suggested for the pretended improvement of the Legislature, by giving to the democratic branch of it an