

country and good order, view with indifference the lowest of the people arrogate to themselves the power of reforming the laws, and the right of determining the measure of their submission to them.

At the same time we humbly observe, that the legal petitions of the people for the redress of real grievances, should not be confounded with acts of sedition, and that we consider the privilege of petitioning the Crown, as secured to the subject by the Bill of Rights, and the Constitution of this country.

It is therefore with peculiar satisfaction, that we find your Royal Highness has convened Parliament at an early period, and without expressing our opinions upon the late occurrence at Manchester, (which we most deeply deplore) as not wishing to prejudge a question so delicate and important as the conduct of the Magistrates of that place, we wait with deference in expectation that the wisdom of Parliament will see justice done to all parties, and those laws duly executed which are equally binding on the Magistrate who administers, and on the subject who obeys them.

Convinced of the criminal and mischievous designs of those who, under the specious pretext of reform, 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 on us to repeat our firm attachment 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 of these realms.

[Transmitted by D. H. Pugh, Esq. the High Sheriff, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.]

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

May it please your Royal Highness,

WE, his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Bishops of the Scotch Episcopal Church, beg leave, with all humility and reverence, to approach the throne, and to express, as well in the name of the clergy and people of our communion, as in our own, the utmost abhorrence of those impious and seditious principles, which are at present so industriously disseminated through the British Empire.

It would it become the governors of our church, which has long been noted for her attachment to those principles, civil and ecclesiastical, by which the primitive Christians were distinguished, to sit silent when the very foundations of our religion are sapped, and the constituted authorities of the State reviled. From the paucity of our numbers, we cannot indeed do much to strengthen the hands of Government in stemming that torrent of atheism and anarchy which threatens to overwhelm the nation in one common ruin; but we beg leave to assure your Royal Highness, that no class of his Majesty's subjects can be more ready to do or suffer whatever may be found necessary for so salutary a purpose.

In the mean time, that He, by whom Kings reign and Princes decree judgment, will support your

Royal Highness in that arduous struggle, which you have now to maintain, and bring under due subjection to the laws, all the enemies of social order and true religion, is the earnest and daily prayer of,

May it please your Royal Highness, his Majesty's and your Royal Highness's most dutiful subjects and servants,

George Gleig, Premier Bishop; Alexander Jolly, Bishop; Daniel Sandford, Bishop; Patrick Torry, Bishop; W. Skinner, Bishop; David Low, Bishop.

Stirling, November 15, 1819.

[Transmitted by the Premier Bishop, and presented by Viscount Sidmouth.]

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

WE, the Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood of Blackburn, in the County of Lancaster, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with sentiments of unfeigned regret, for the unhappy and groundless Disturbances which now prevail in this part of the kingdom.

We behold with indignation the delusions which have prevailed on the minds of great multitudes among the lower orders of our Countrymen, by which their better natures have been wholly perverted and misled, through the instrumentality of artful and wicked men, from the duty which they owe to God, the King, and the Laws of the Land.

We regret that a licentious and profligate press, the principal cause of these alarming evils, has so long been permitted, almost with impunity, to disseminate political and religious poisons at once so quick in their operation, and so permanent and abiding in their effects, upon the moral and religious Constitution of those who have unhappily imbibed them. We do most sincerely and deeply lament the temporary stagnation, which, from causes wholly unconnected with the representation of the country in the Commons House of Parliament, has confessedly taken place in the Trade and Manufactures of this country, but we believe and know the distresses which that stagnation has occasioned, to be greatly and mischievously exaggerated, for the purpose of exciting sedition, while we acknowledge with gratitude to Providence, that these evils have been, in a great degree, counteracted by a most plentiful harvest, and by an unusual cheapness and abundance of all the necessaries of life.

In the operation of those diabolical principles, by which the present discontents, with all their dreaded consequences, have been occasioned, we clearly discern the spirit of revived jacobinism, a principle which by the united operation of irreligion and rebellion, tends to dissolve all the relations of civilized life, to the extinction of all the feelings of social order, to the decomposition of all the ties of humanity, and in its progress would degrade, as it has once already degraded, the best informed, and most highly refined portion of the human race, into bands of ruffians and savages. What then must be its effects, when united, as at present, with every mode of inflammatory exaggeration and falsehood, on natures undisciplined and ferocious, on the half-instructed, half-reason-