

text of obtaining Parliamentary Reform, but at which the most seditious and inflammatory speeches have been uttered, tending alike to hold in derision, and to vilify our invaluable Constitution, our sacred religion, and our established laws.

While we deprecate such proceedings, and the circulation of irreligious and blasphemous publications, with a view to corrupt the minds of the ignorant, and tarnish the national character hitherto equally alive to fidelity to the Sovereign and reverence to God, we trust that the great body of the people are steadily attached to that Constitution under which we have the happiness to live, and rejoice in assuring your Royal Highness that the inhabitants of this ancient Burgh remain peaceable, orderly, and well disposed, and although we are confident of a continuance of this exemplary conduct, we shall use our utmost exertions to check any disposition to disturb the public peace, and endanger the state.

Relying, as we do, with confidence on the paternal care of your Royal Highness in the government of these realms, we feel it to be our bounden duty, in the present distracted state of the country, to rally round the throne, the altar, and the Constitution, and to pledge our zealous co-operation in the maintenance of order and tranquillity.

We are alive to the present sufferings of the manufacturing and commercial bodies of the people; but we trust in Providence their privations will be of short duration, and that the wisdom of an enlightened Parliament will endeavour to soothe and alleviate the existing distress as far as is consistent with national safety.

Signed in our name and by our appointment,
and the Seal of the Burgh affixed hereto, at
Linlithgow, the 30th day of November,
1819,

John Lloyd, Provost.

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

Unto His Royal Highness, George Prince of Wales,
Prince REGENT of the Kingdoms of Great
Britain and Ireland.

The humble and dutiful Address of the Ministers of the Gospel, in the Presbytery of Caithness, assembled at the celebration of the Communion at Halkirk, 27th Nov. 1819.

May it please your Royal Highness,

WE, His Majesty's most loyal and affectionate subjects, the Ministers of the Presbytery of Caithness, met at the celebration of the Communion, beg leave to convey to your Royal Highness our most sincere assurances of loyalty, fidelity, veneration and respect, to our most beloved Sovereign, your Royal Highness, and your Illustrious House; and our unshaken attachment to the pure principles of the much envied Constitution of these Realms; which secures to all its members, the inestimable privileges of independence, peace, prosperity, religion, civil liberty and legitimate government; and which we trust, with the favour of Divine Providence, shall transmit the same benefits, undiminished, and with increasing lustre, to the latest posterity.

It is not without concern and anxiety, that we

have learned, that in certain remote districts, a spirit of discontent and turbulence, should have arisen to threaten the interruption of the peace and order of society, and undermine the sacred principles of christian and civil subordination, which the piety and patriotism of our forefathers had so happily been the means of establishing, inculcating and exemplifying.

We can with sincerity and pleasure assure your Royal Highness, that the portion of his Majesty's subjects under our pastoral charge, continues unshaken by the principles of those ill-designing men, who would seem to subvert and dissolve the authority of christian obligations and social union, so long happily established in our land. Notwithstanding the necessary privations occasioned by a late successful warfare, and the subsequent chastisements of Providence, in visiting these northern districts with two seasons of famine and scarcity, from which many of the poor especially are hardly yet fully recovered; and other casualties and afflictions affecting all ranks; there still remains a good portion of the ancient principles of loyalty, devotion and gratitude—leading to trust in the continued smiles of Heaven on our sacred and civil interests.

If contrary principles have existed elsewhere, we trust their progress shall be happily arrested, and the effects of them speedily obviated. Although their importation may have been the consequences of foreign wars and commerce; the maxims of irreligion, superstition, infidelity and licentiousness leading to apostacy; and revolutionary opinions fomented by the hidden machinations of foreign priestcraft and policy—shall not shake our happy Constitution—but we trust shall be always found inconsistent with it; so long as any remembrance exists of the wisdom, piety and patriotism of our ancestors, it will be the duty of every good citizen to contend with them.

It is our most earnest prayer, that by the Divine blessing on the exertions of civil and sacred authority, and the united co-operation of christian principles and christian virtues in all ranks; the dangers arising from such causes shall be averted; and that piety, loyalty and patriotism shall continue to flourish in these lands. There may be some points relating to christian doctrine and discipline that may require the attention of the pastors in the assembly and convocation. We trust the great body of the nation shall be found steady to the religion of their fathers and the fundamental principles of our ancient Constitution.—We beg leave to acknowledge the wisdom and liberality of the legislature in making provision for extending the accommodation necessary for parochial churches, schools, and seminaries of learning, and rectifying known abuses of public institutions. We shall ever retain good hopes of our country. The supreme head of the church, may cause "a nation to be born, at once."

May your Royal Highness be divinely enabled to fulfill all the duties of your high station, mindful that "the King who faithfully judges the poor, shall have his throne established for ever."

That the blessings of Heaven in abundant effusion may be poured down on his Majesty, your Royal Highness, and your Illustrious House; and that peace, prosperity and future felicity to your Royal