

leave to assure your Royal Highness that in this County they will meet with every assistance which loyalty and Constitutional principals can call forth.

We feel perfectly convinced that your Royal Highness, with the advice of your Council, will endeavour to alleviate the existing distresses that pervade many districts of the Kingdom, in which measure we shall cheerfully assist as far as our means permit.

We beg further to avail ourselves of this opportunity to express to your Royal Highness, that it was not without the deepest concern that we heard of the circulation of blasphemous and profane publications among the lower orders of His Majesty's subjects. We are too firmly persuaded of the truth of our holy religion, to entertain the least fear that the publications shall be able to overturn it; but we dread the mischief which they may produce for a time, and we rest assured that your Royal Highness will, with the aid and advice of Parliament, give a speedy and an effectual check to the further dissemination of these impious and pernicious writings.

Signed in name, and by appointment of a General Meeting, at Wick, this 26th day of November 1819. by

*Benjamin Dunbar, Preses.*

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

Unto His Royal Highness George PRINCE REGENT of the United Kingdom.

The loyal and dutiful Address of the Presbytery of Ayr.

*May it please your Royal Highness.*

WE, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbytery of Ayr, met in Presbytery, beg leave to approach the Throne in the present crisis of public affairs, to tender to your Royal Highness the assurance of our unshaken loyalty and unalterable attachment to the Civil and Ecclesiastical Constitution of our Country.

Commissnerating as we do the severe hardships under which the operative manufacturing classes of the community are labouring; seconding, as is our duty, by every means in our power, the efforts which benevolence is making to mitigate the pressure of these evils; we regret extremely, that daring and unprincipled men, availing themselves of these hardships, are representing them as originating in the misconduct of our Government; are stimulating the poor and ignorant to throw off the fear of God, and to abjure that religion which alone can minister patience under privations, and comfort in affliction; and having thus freed these unfortunate from the wholesome restraints of morality and religion, are urging them to seek relief in schemes which are inconsistent, not only with the safety, but with the very existence of our liberties. But we look forward with confidence to the vigour of His Majesty's councils, and to the wisdom of Parliament, for the adoption of such measures, as, under God, may speedily check the progress of this moral pestilence.

It affords us heartfelt satisfaction to assure your Royal Highness that but few of the people under

our pastoral care have yet been infected with the contagion of these destructive principles: And as the loyal subjects of our King, and as ministers of Jesus Christ, we pledge ourselves to your Royal Highness, that we shall labour assiduously in our vocation, to cherish in the minds of our people submission to the laws, loyalty to our King, love for our unrivalled Constitution, reverence for our holy Religion, and abhorrence of those infidel and atheistical principles, which are not more destructive of our present peace than of our everlasting welfare.

And that He, by whom Kings reign, and Princes decree justice, may direct and assist your Royal Highness, and your Councils, in the present critical conjuncture of public affairs; that He may be the soothing consolation of our afflicted Sovereign, in whose name, and (in) behalf, you worthily hold the reins of Government; and that He may bless and preserve the whole of the Royal Family, are, through the merits and mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the earnest prayers of, may it please your Royal Highness, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbytery of Ayr, met in Presbytery, on this 24th day of November 1819.

Signed in our name and by our appointment,

*Alexander Cuthill, Moderator.*

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

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

*May it please your Royal Highness,*

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood of Ashborne, in the present crisis of public affairs, humbly beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with the assurance of our deep veneration for His Majesty's Royal Person, our firm allegiance to his Government, and of our fidelity and attachment to your Royal Highness.

We feel it our duty to express our abhorrence of the criminal designs of seditious and disaffected subjects, who, openly and avowedly meditating the subversion of our Laws and Government, the annihilation of all distinction of rank and the destruction of private property, have abused our most valuable privileges, and perverted our most sacred rights. In their assemblies, the people have been instigated by inflammatory language to violate every social tie, and to become the instruments of ambitious leaders, to overthrow the Government of the country; and to obtain the more successfully the object of their wickedness, they have industriously issued from the press, and have actively circulated, the most blasphemous publications, with the view of destroying in the minds of the unwary every idea of religious obligation, and every sound principle of human conduct.

But, Sir, convinced as we are that there is great danger impending on the country from the secret machinations and open menaces of these factious leaders "proud and impatient of aught superior," yet we rely upon the vigilance and vigour of your