

And we pray the Almighty Ruler of events, long to permit your Majesty to reign in peace over a free and independent people.

[Here follow the Signatures.]

[Transmitted by Lord De Dunstanville.]

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty,

WE, the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy and Freeholders of the County of Worcester, beg to offer, at this peculiar crisis, our most dutiful assurances of allegiance and inviolable attachment to your Majesty's sacred Person and Government; we say at this peculiar crisis, because in the annals of our history never were loyal subjects more strongly called upon to manifest their patriotism than at the present moment, when the fabric of our Constitution and the Throne itself are attacked by the assailing voice of our disaffected and misguided countrymen. Vice, Sire, never wears a more appalling aspect than when it assumes the mask of virtue; and under the specious pretext of the correction of those errors and imperfections to which the best of governments must be liable, (though none more free from them than the one under which we enjoy our individual good, and the greatest public happiness), we view with horror and disgust the object of designing men in the daily perversion of that liberty which was granted to the press by one of our most ancient and invaluable charters. We would not willingly or precipitately see the privileges of that constitutional liberty abridged; but we do deprecate, with fearful abhorrence, the efforts which, under its protection, have been daringly made by unprincipled and crafty assailants to undermine, by blasphemy and libel, the Religion and the Constitution of the realm. Against such perverted liberty and its consequences are we determined to make a firm and united stand; and, by the humble influence of our declaration, we hope to remind those who have been seduced from their allegiance, that to be happy they must love God and honour the king; hastily arousing from their dream of delusion to the reality of that true happiness invariably waiting upon a proper course.

In venturing to approach your Majesty with firm assurances of steadfast adherence to our ancient laws, and of inviolable attachment to your sacred Person, it is not our desire to impugn the loyalty of others, but to make to your Majesty an undisguised and faithful avowal of our own; and whilst we have the protecting hand of Providence over us, and a Monarch who tempers his councils with

wisdom, and his prerogative with moderation, by his Government, and our glorious Constitution, will we stand; fearlessly supporting the honour of our King and Country, at the hazard even of our lives and property.

[Here follow the Signatures.]

[Transmitted by the High Sheriff.]

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty.

WE, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Bailiff, Justice, Aldermen, Common Council, Clergy and other Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood of Kidderminster, deem it especially incumbent upon us in these eventful times to renew our assurance of fidelity to your Royal Person, and of devotion to our invaluable Constitution.

Proud of this Constitution, the gradual result of the wisdom and valour of ages, and the admiration of foreigners, we have beheld with indignation the malignant efforts of designing, and with regret the unconscious co-operation of deluded Britons to impair or destroy this inestimable blessing; in these efforts we recognize the operation of that revolutionary principle which has already deluged with blood a great part of Europe, and has long been diffusing its pestiferous poison through these realms, principally by means of blasphemous and seditious writings and harangues, but assuming various forms accommodated to the peculiar circumstances of the time, and rendering every incident of national difficulty or distress subservient to its constant purposes of degrading the constituted Authorities, confounding the gradations of society, and seducing the people from their allegiance to their King, their Country and their God.

But whatever partial triumph the devisors or abettors of these machinations may have obtained for awhile over the minds of the timid and unwary, we trust, that the time has arrived when delusion is passing away, and when the good and reflecting of all denominations will rally round the Throne, and unite in defending the Constitution against the assaults of blasphemy, treason and anarchy.

For ourselves, we beg to assure your Majesty of our unabated attachment, and of our determination to exert ourselves in rectifying the deluded, confirming the loyal, and repressing the factious.

We heartily pray that your Majesty may live happily and reign long in the hearts of a faithful and grateful people.

[Here follow the Signatures.]

[Delivered by Joseph Newcomb, Esq.]