

1872

No. 49.

To Her Most Excellent Majesty the Queen
VICTORIA.

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Master, Wardens, Searchers, Assistants, and Commonalty of the Corporation of Cutlers in Hallamshire (in which district is situated Sheffield), in the county of York, most humbly ask permission to approach your Majesty with the expression of our sincere and deep-felt sorrow and sympathy, on the recent demise of our late most truly illustrious Monarch, your Majesty's late revered Uncle, King William the Fourth. The affliction, however, consequent upon this heartfelt bereavement, which your Majesty, in common with your loyal subjects, has sustained, is to us much mitigated by the circumstance of your Majesty's happy and most auspicious succession to the Crown, and the confidence which we entertain that your Majesty will be ever mindful of those great principles which originally placed the House of Brunswick on the Throne of these realms.

We have derived the greatest satisfaction from your Majesty's gracious assurance that you will protect the rights, and promote, to the utmost of your power, the happiness and welfare of all classes of your subjects.

That it may please Almighty God, through His Holy Spirit, to strengthen and assist your Majesty, and your Councils, to realise this your gracious assurance; and that the Crown, which, happily for these realms, is the undisputed right of your Majesty, may long be worn by one so worthy of it, and at last be resigned only for one of higher glory, is the fervent prayer of your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects.

By order of the Master, Wardens, Searchers, and Assistants of the Corporation of Cutlers in Hallamshire, in their Common-hall, in Sheffield, assembled. Thomas Blake, Master Cutler.

[Transmitted by James Wilson, Esq.]

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