

sanguine hopes, under the auspices of your most gracious Majesty, already so firmly established in the hearts of a loyal and obedient people.

Permit us, on this occasion, to assure your most gracious Majesty of our affectionate duty and regard for your Majesty's Person, now so dear to us, in the high and national character in which your Majesty is placed; and that we most sincerely invoke upon your Majesty's life the blessings of Providence in the dispensation of health, and every other happiness that the Sovereign of a free and enlightened nation can possibly anticipate, and which can in any respect tend to your Majesty's welfare and prosperity.

As witness our common seal this 24th day of June 1837.

[Transmitted by the Mayor.]

No. 7.

To the QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty.

WE, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Town Councillors of the Borough of Tenby, in the County of Pembroke, in Council assembled, beg leave to present to your Majesty our joyful congratulations on your ascending the Throne of these dominions, and our sincere professions of loyalty and attachment to your Royal Person, and of confidence in the integrity and wisdom of your Majesty's present Ministry of this great empire.

Actuated by these sentiments, we ardently hope and trust that it will please Providence to bless you with a long, prosperous, and glorious reign, and that, under these auspicious circumstances, your name may be transmitted to posterity distinguished amidst the most happy and illustrious of the Sovereigns that have ruled over the destinies of Great Britain.

William Richards, Mayor.

[Transmitted by W. W. Phillips, Esq.]

No. 8.

To Her Most Gracious Majesty QUEEN VICTORIA.

May it please your Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Inhabitants of Ewell, Epsom, and its neighbourhood, avail ourselves of this welcome opportunity of approaching your Majesty, to offer to you our heartfelt congratulations upon your Accession to the Throne of your Ancestors. And while we beg to express to your Majesty our sincerest wishes for your health and happiness, we would offer up our most earnest prayer that Divine Providence may ever guard and guide you; may permit you, in health and prosperity, long to rule over us; and may grant to you the high satisfaction of feeling assured that your reign in the hearts and affections of a happy and devoted people.

Signed, on their behalf,

G. Leven Glynn, Vicar of Ewell.  
Henry Gosse, J.P., Epsom.

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No. 9.

To the QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty.

Madam, may it please your Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Society of Dramatic Authors, humbly approach the Throne with the expression of our condolence on the death of our late lamented Sovereign, and of our congratulation on your Majesty's Accession to the Crown of your Ancestors. Fully aware that the only claim we can possess to your Majesty's gracious attention, is the circumstance of our being associated for the purpose of watching over the interests of a high art, we should have felt it most befitting our situation to abstain from any intrusion of the sentiments which we share with the entire nation, had we not remembered, that, under the beneficent sanction of His late Majesty, the only laws ever passed in this country, with the object of encouraging the drama, were enacted; and did we not conceive this to be a proper opportunity to lay at the feet of Royalty a petition on behalf of that branch of literature, the permanent welfare of which it is no less our duty than our interest to endeavour to promote.

For this purpose, after respectfully claiming our share in the joy and exultation felt by all classes on the auspicious commencement of your Majesty's reign, we humbly crave your Majesty's patience, and your Royal pardon, for the length at which we find it necessary for distinctness to take to present our solicitation. May we presume, in excuse rather than in importunity, most humbly to urge to your Majesty, that the drama, always among the noblest and most enduring monuments of great nations, has been, and yet is, the first, the peculiar honour of the literature of that country over which your Majesty is, as we earnestly pray, long and gloriously to reign. We humbly present to your Majesty's recollection, that no trophy of the constant triumphs of the great Elizabeth remains so untarnished and unmanipulated as the dramatic poetry of which she was the beneficent patron, and which was reared to its immortality under her sway.

We humbly represent to your Majesty, that a kindred spirit still exists capable, under the favouring circumstance of the Royal regard, of producing kindred effects. In laying the proofs of this bold assertion at your Majesty's feet, we rely in by much the greater degree upon the works of some who, though connected with this association as honorary members, are not cognizant of our humble petition, and of one or two whom accidental circumstances only have prevented from co-operating with us; we are not therefore under the necessity of shrinking from a declaration which we feel to be true.

We most humbly adduce to your Majesty, as instances of this power, such plays as De Montfort and Count Basil: Rienzi, Charles the First, and the Foscari; Virginius, William Tell, Alfred the Great, the Hunchback, and the Wife; Mirandola, Fazio, the Provost of Bruges, Damon and Pythias. These plays have been written under circumstances of discouragement. May we implore of your Majesty to foster into ripened strength the power which has produced them, and to enable such authors and their