To Her Most Gracious Majesty QUEEN VICTORIA.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Councillors of the Borough of South Shields, in the county of Durham.

WE, your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg leave to approach you with our sincere and heartfelt congratulations on the termination of the War, and the restoration of amicable relations between your Majesty and the Emperor of All the Russias. We beg at the same time to convey to your

We beg at the same time to convey to your Majesty, with pride and satisfaction, our admiration of the bravery and gallant achievements of your Majesty's Army and Navy, during the late eventful struggle, under circumstances trequently most disheartening and trying to the fortitude of the former.

In addition to which we feel it to be a matter for national exultation and rejoicings in connection with the late War, and of further congratulation to your Majesty, that amongst all the gallant crews by which your Majesty's magnificent Fleets were so effectually manned, an impressed man was not to be found; the naval honour, and the safety and protection of your Majesty and your dominions, having been voluntarily supported, watched over, and undertaken by British seamen.

Given under the Corporate Seal of the Borough of South Shields, this 21st day of May, 1856.

Thos. Stainton, Mayor.

To the QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Convention of the Royal Burghs of Scotland, beg humbly to approach your Majesty, and to offer our sincere congratulations on the termination of the just War in which your Majesty and your august Allies had been forced to engage for the repression of that spirit of aggrandisement by which the councils of your enemy seemed alone to be actuated, and to express our gratitude for the restoration of the inestimable blessing of Peace at the earliest possible period which was compatible with the great and unselfish objects for which the War was undertaken.

While we embrace this opportunity of expressing our sincere hope that these realms may enjoy the blessings of Peace under your benignant sway, we beg, at the same time, to express our willingness, should that ever be necessary, to bear our share of the burdens of War in any case where Peace cannot be preserved except at a sacrifice of the honour of our country.

Signed in name and by appointment of the Convention of the Royal Burghs of Scotland, and the Seal of the Convention affixed hereto.

John Melville, Lord Provost, Pres. of Convention.

Buckingham Palace, May 27, 1856.

This day had audience of Her Majesty;

The Count Apponyi, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Emperor of Austria, to deliver his credentials:

To which he was introduced by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and conducted by Major-General the Honourable Sir Edward Cust, K.C.H., Her Majesty's Master of the Ceremonies.

Downing-Street, May 30, 1856.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Thomas Chisholm Anstey, Esq., Her Majesty's Attorney-General for Hong Kong, to be a Member of the Legislative Council of that Colony.

Whitehall, May 28, 1856.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Francis Alexander, Earl of Kintore, to be Lieutenant and Sheriff Principal of the shire of Kincardine, in the room of James Earl of Southesk, resigned.

Whitehall, May 13, 1856.

The Queen has been pleased to grant unto William Towers, of Esthwaite Lodge, in the parish of Hawkshead, in the county palatine of Lancaster, an Undergraduate of Trinity College, in the University of Cambridge, eldest son of William Towers, of Sawrey, in the said county palatine, Gentleman, Her royal licence and authority, that he and his issue may, in compliance with a proviso contained in the last will and testament of Thomas Alcock Beck, late of Esthwaite Lodge, in the parish of Hawkshead, in the county palatine of Lancaster aforesaid, Esquire, deceased, take the surname of Alcock Beck only, in lieu of his family surname, and that he and they may use and bear the arms of Beck, the arms used and borne by the testator ; such arms being first duly exemplified according to the laws of arms, and recorded in the Heralds' Office, otherwise the said royal licence and permission to be void and of none effect :

And also to command that the said royal concession and declaration be recorded in Her Majesty's College of Arms.

Board of Trade, Whitehall, May 28, 1856.

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Venice, reporting the cessation of the prohibition to export horses from the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom, and from the Duchies of Modena and Parma.

Board of Trade, Whitehall, May 28, 1856.

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Venice, reporting the following increase of excise duties on the importation into that place of the undermentioned articles :

		ust.	
		5. C.	
Spirits, from	2	82	to 6 per imp. gal.
Beer, additional	1	80	per imp. gal.
Firewood "			per metrical quintal.
Charcoal "		60	