

sented to me, and return you my sincere thanks for your kind congratulations on my marriage.

"I speak for the Princess as well as for myself, when I say, that we can never forget the magnificent testimony which the Corporation of the City of London has borne to the interest which it felt in our union.

"The feelings of loyalty to the Throne and attachment to my Family, thus manifested by a body holding so high a rank in the world, cannot fail to be a source of the greatest pride and satisfaction to me."

To Her Royal Highness the PRINCESS OF WALES.

May it please your Royal Highness,

WE, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, desire to offer to your Royal Highness our hearty congratulations on your marriage with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

In giving a cordial and enthusiastic welcome to your Royal Highness on your arrival on our shores, we had the opportunity of testifying our fervent loyalty to the Queen and the deep interest which we take in the welfare of every member of Her Royal House, and at the same time of giving expression to our heartfelt satisfaction in the prospect of an alliance which promises to add so much to the happiness of your chosen Consort and of all the members of the Royal Family.

That the Great Giver of all good may be pleased to bless your Marriage—that His Divine favours, may rest upon your Royal Highness in all the relations of public and private life—and that this, your adopted home, may, during very many successive years be to your Royal Highness a home of peace and happiness will ever be our earnest prayer.

To which address Her Royal Highness was pleased to return the following most gracious answer:

"My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen of the City,

"I acknowledge with my best thanks your hearty congratulations on my Marriage with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

"I have already had an opportunity of expressing to you the high estimation I felt for the magnificent reception you gave me on my arrival in this country; and, I can assure you, this additional proof of your loyalty and attachment confirms the feelings of gratitude which I previously entertained towards the City of London."

Foreign Office, May 22, 1863.

EARL RUSSELL, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received a Despatch from Sir John Crampton, Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a Royal Decree, published in the Madrid Gazette of the 22nd of December, 1862, by which the system of Passports hitherto in force in Spain has been

abrogated, and other formalities are substituted for ascertaining the identity of foreigners entering Spain, and for legalizing their residence in that country:

The following is translation of the Royal Decree in question:

ROYAL DECREE.

IN conformity with what has been proposed to me by the Minister of the Interior, and in conformity with the Council of Ministers, I decree as follows:

ART. 1. The passports which are still demanded of travellers proceeding abroad and to the colonies, in virtue of the 7th Article of the Royal Decree of February 15, 1854, shall be suppressed from the 1st of January of next year, 1863.

ART. 2. All the other regulations of the said decree remain in force.

ART. 3. In order to avoid that the young men subject to the conscription should escape that responsibility by leaving the kingdom, no certificate of domicile shall be granted them for that purpose, without they guarantee their return to take part in the subscription by the deposit of the sum of 8000 reals, or delivering a deed of sufficient security according to the law on conscription of January 30, 1856.

ART. 4. From the 1st of January, 1863, foreigners shall no longer be asked for their passports on entering Spain, but they must be provided with certificates of domicile, certificates of servitude if they be servants, artisans, or some other document to testify to their identity, the place they come from, and the object of their journey to the Kingdom. The Authorities or their agents shall exact the presentation of this document whenever they may deem it to be necessary.

ART. 5. Any foreigner shall also be admitted into the Kingdom by his merely presenting himself to the Authorities, although not possessing any kind of document, but he must make himself known by means of a declaration, signed by two inhabitants or persons resident in the town or place at which he may present himself, who shall bear witness that they know him, and that his declaration is true; and he must also, in all cases, state where he came from, and the object of his journey.

ART. 6. The visé of passports by Spanish Consuls is suppressed, as also the fee of 8 reals which, according to the 85th Article of the Police Regulations of 1824, was still demanded by the employés of that branch of the service in the frontier provinces of foreigners entering Spain, with the exception of Portuguese subjects, with respect to whom it was abolished by the law of June 3, 1855.

ART. 7. Notwithstanding the provisions contained in the above articles, passports will continue to be granted to those who ask for them, to travel in countries where this requirement is still in force, by presenting the certificate of domicile in the form required by existing regulations on this matter.

ART. 8. This Royal Decree shall be communicated to the Cortés, and the Minister of the Interior shall issue the necessary orders for its execution.

Given in the Palace, 17th of December, 1862.

Signed by the Royal Hand.

The Minister of the Interior,
(Signed) JOSE DE POSADA VERRERA.