

who has been pleased to receive the same very graciously :

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the inhabitants of the county of Berks, in county meeting assembled, beg to offer to your Majesty our heartfelt congratulations on the happy event of the birth of a son to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The celebration of the nuptials of their Royal Highnesses afforded opportunity to the people of these realms to express their devoted attachment to the person and throne of your Majesty; and the universal joy which was manifested on that occasion by all classes of your Majesty's subjects must have demonstrated to the Prince of Wales how ardently he is held in the affections of the people as one of your Majesty's Royal family and the Heir Apparent of the British Throne.

We rejoice in the further opportunity now afforded us of testifying our gratitude that the constitutional government of this kingdom is likely to be perpetuated under the sceptre of your Majesty, and under that of your Royal descendants; and we heartily pray that your Majesty may derive both comfort and consolation from the contemplation of this addition to your Royal progeny, and from the satisfaction with which you must hail the birth of the infant Prince.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting, at Reading, in the county of Berks, the 20th day of February, 1864.

Richard Hall Say, Sheriff.

And the following on the same subject: from

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Great Yarmouth.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Free Burgesses of the borough of Saltash.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Tewkesbury.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Neath.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the city of New Sarum.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Birmingham.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Sunderland.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Devonport.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of Oxford.

The Local Board of Health of Weston-super-Mare.

The Commissioners of the town of Tunbridge Wells.

The Trustees, Committee, Visitors, and Teachers of the Stockport Sunday School.

The British Orphan Asylum.

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 12th day of March, 1864.

HER Majesty having been pleased to appoint James Hay Erskine Wemyss, Esquire, M.P., to be Her Majesty's Lieutenant of the county of Fife, he this day took and subscribed the oath appointed to be taken thereupon instead of the oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and abjuration:

Edmund Harrison.

Foreign Office, March 15, 1864.

NOTIFICATION OF BLOCKADE.

IT is hereby notified that Earl Russell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received from Her Majesty's Minister at Copenhagen, a Notification, dated the 8th March, 1864, addressed to him by the Danish Minister, Monsieur Quaade, of the Blockade from the 15th instant (March), by the Danish Naval Forces, of the ports of Cammin, Swinemünde, Wolgast, Greifswalde, Stralsund, and Barth.

The following is the Official Notification referred to:—

THE Ministry of Marine notifies herewith, that the following harbours, from the 15th of this month, are blockaded, viz:—

Cammin, Swinemünde, Wolgast, Greifswalde, Stralsund, and Barth.

This has been communicated to the representatives of the neutral powers accredited at His Majesty's Court, and this communication will be delivered by the pilots to all vessels requesting their assistance for the passage through the Sound and the Belts.

Ministry of Marine, Copenhagen,
the 8th March, 1864.

O. LÜTKEN.

N. R. PETERSON.

Foreign Office, March 15, 1864.

IT is hereby notified that Earl Russell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hamburg, a copy and translation of a Notification issued by the Prussian authorities, relative to the course to be observed by ships passing the Batteries of the Prussian Naval Station at Jade.

The following is the official Notification referred to:—

BEKANNTMACHUNG für Schiffe beim Passiren der Batterien des Jadehafens.

NACHDEM die Batterien für das Königlich Preussische Jade-Etablissement armirt sind und die Kriegsflagge führen, haben alle Segelfahrzeuge dieselben unter kleinen Segeln zu passiren und die Nationalflagge zu hissen. Alle Dampfschiffe fahren mit halber Kraft vorüber und zeigen ebenfalls die Nationalflagge. Wenn Fahrzeuge von einem Ordonnanzboote mit Preussischer Flagge angerufen werden, so müssen sie augenblicklich beidrehen resp. stoppen und seinen Weisungen folgen. Fahrzeuge, welche diesen Anordnungen nicht Folge leisten, werden zuerst durch einen blinden Schuss und wenn auch der unberücksichtigt bleibt, durch einen scharfen Schuss erinnert werden. Dasselbe geschieht, wenn Fahrzeuge beim Passiren der Batterien unterlassen, nach Sonnenuntergang die gesetzlich vorgeschriebenen Laternen zu führen.

Diese Bestimmungen treten mit dem Tage ihrer Bekanntmachung in Kraft.

Oldenburg, den 4 März, 1864.

Königlich Preussisches Admiraliäts-Commissariat.

JACHMANN.