

your Majesty our sincere and hearty congratulations on the marriage of His Royal Highness Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, your Majesty's second son, with Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrowna, only daughter of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias.

Ever entertaining a deep and affectionate interest in all that concerns the domestic happiness of the members of your Royal House, we cannot, on this auspicious occasion, be unmindful of the national importance of an alliance that must necessarily and happily tend to harmonise the sentiments and deepen the sympathies of two great and powerful empires.

That Almighty God may bless the union, and that your Majesty may for many years derive from it additional comfort and happiness, is our sincere and earnest prayer.

To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following most gracious answer :—

"I thank you very sincerely for your hearty congratulations on the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh, and for your renewed expression of affectionate interest in all that concerns the domestic happiness of the members of my family.

"I fervently pray that this alliance may tend to harmonise the sentiments, and deepen the sympathies of the two countries now so closely united."

*Windsor Castle, March 18, 1874.*

**T**HIS day, the Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Presbyterian Denomination residing in and near the cities of London and Westminster, waited upon Her Majesty, to present the following Address, which was handed to Her Majesty :—

*May it please your Majesty,*

WE, the body of English Presbyterian Ministers resident in and near the cities of London and Westminster, desire to offer to your Majesty our loyal sympathy and congratulations on the occasion of the marriage of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh with Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrowna of Russia. That the Divine blessing may rest on your son and the wife of his choice, whom your Majesty will receive as a daughter, is the earnest prayer of the whole people of this nation, who feel as their own every joy and every sorrow of your Majesty and your Royal House. In the prayer that your Majesty's utmost wishes and hopes for your children may be fulfilled, we beg to assure your Majesty that none can join more heartily than we; and we cannot but cherish bright anticipations of a home to which His Royal Highness will carry, and in which he will preserve as a possession beyond all price, the memory and traditions of the home in which His Royal Highness himself was brought up.

While we rejoice in this auspicious event for the sake of the personal happiness we trust it will bring to a member of your Majesty's family, we have also sincere satisfaction in believing that the ties of affection which bind together the hearts of the Prince and Princess who have chosen each other as companions through life will tend to strengthen and increase the feelings of amity and good-will between the two great nations which are now united in one gladness and in one prayer.

To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following most gracious answer :—

"I accept with much satisfaction this assurance of your sympathy and congratulation on the occasion of the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrowna of Russia; and I most heartily join in your desire that the ties of affection which bind together the hearts of the Prince and Princess may tend to strengthen and increase the feelings of good-will between the two nations now united in one gladness and in one prayer."

*Windsor Castle, March 18, 1874.*

**T**HIS day the Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations residing in and about the cities of London and Westminster, waited upon Her Majesty to present the following Address, which was handed to Her Majesty :—

To the QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

*May it pleased your Majesty.*

WE, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations residing in and about the cities of London and Westminster, approach your Majesty, to offer our congratulations on the marriage of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, with the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrowna of Russia.

In common with the other loyal subjects of your Majesty, remembering the great benefits which have accrued to the nation from your Majesty's rule and personal influence, we rejoice in every event which tends to increase your Majesty's happiness.

It has been our privilege and duty from time to time to acknowledge in loyal Addresses to your Majesty the relief which has been brought to us as Protestant Dissenters by the righteous and beneficent legislation which has been sanctioned by your Majesty's Royal Predecessors of the House of Brunswick.

We are, therefore, grateful for every event which strengthens the honourable alliances and extends the influence of your Majesty's family, esteeming the marriage which has united the Royal Houses of England and Russia as an event of this order; and so an augury of peace and of progress of civil and religious liberty, we regard it with peculiar satisfaction and pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon it.

To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following most gracious answer :—

"I thank you very sincerely for your congratulations on this happy occasion.

"I cordially concur with you in the confident hope that the marriage of my son with the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrowna of Russia, may, under God's blessing, conduce not only to their mutual and lasting happiness, but to the best interests of the English and Russian nations."

*Windsor Castle, March 18, 1874.*

**T**HIS day the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Dublin, accompanied by several members of the Corporation, waited upon Her