

ever gratefully remember the sympathetic and active interest Your Majesties always take in the welfare and prosperity of Your subjects, and we respectfully offer Your Majesties a loyal and hearty welcome.

Your arduous and successful labours for the maintenance of the peace of the world have promoted a great increase in international cordiality and materially furthered the progress of commercial prosperity.

We trust and believe that, under Your Majesty's Sovereignty the British Empire will advance along the pathway of justice and freedom, and we earnestly pray that Your Majesty's beneficent reign may be long, happy and glorious.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

“The Queen and I are highly gratified at the cordial address of welcome which you have handed to Us, and are touched by the expressions of personal loyalty which it contains.

“When We look round this great city We feel that We are in one of the mighty centres of industry which have raised Great Britain to her present position in the hierarchy of nations. The enthusiastic reception We have met on all sides is a proof of the affection of My people, and your address assures Me that My efforts in the cause of peace have been appreciated. It has ever been My strongest conviction that freedom from the waste and disturbance of warfare and the apprehension of war is essential for the moral and material welfare of this country, and My earnest endeavours will always be directed to the maintenance of international friendship.

“I heartily trust that the commercial prosperity of Newcastle and Gateshead may continually increase.”

To The King's Most Excellent Majesty.

*May it please Your Majesty.*

That, on the part of the Governors and Council of the College, I express their most humble and most loyal gratitude for the distinguished honour that Your Majesty's presence here to-day has conferred upon it, and for the signal recognition thus given to the importance of the work which the College has been endeavouring to perform.

And, in doing so, may I venture further to express our profound happiness in welcoming also within our walls Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Alexandra, to whom, as all know, every effort to promote the intellectual and moral welfare of the people of this country is an object of genuine interest.

This College, I am desired to inform Your Majesty, was founded five-and-thirty years ago to bring the advantages of university education better within the reach of the people of the Tyneside and its neighbourhood. It owes its origin in part to the University of Durham, with which it is still associated, and in part to the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers, in whose premises it found a home during its early years. The buildings, whose completion is celebrated to-day, were commenced in the year 1887, and have been carried out at a cost of £150,000, including the original value of the land. The whole of

this sum has been the outcome of private liberality, among the chief donors being Mr. T. G. Gibson, by whom the foundation stone of the portion just completed was laid, the late Sir Isaac Lowthian Bell, to whom we owe the completion of the tower, and another benefactor who has desired that his name shall not be made known.

Your Majesty will not be surprised to learn that the character of the studies pursued in the College has been largely influenced by the particular genius of its locality; that they have always leaned less to the literary than to the scientific side; and even that much of our scientific studies has had for its especial object the application of science to Mining, Engineering, Agriculture and other practical pursuits. Our Engineering laboratories have been our especial pride; we are making every effort to bring the Electrical Engineering Department to as high a level as the rest, and the liberality of the shipbuilders and shipowners of the district is now being exercised in the establishment of a School of Naval Architecture befitting the importance of the North-East Coast as one of the chief seats in the world of the shipbuilding industry. Taking all departments together, the teaching staff of the College now numbers sixty-seven, and its day-students are five hundred and fifteen, exclusive of nearly a thousand more who are attending evening classes alone.

The building up of such an institution cannot be accomplished without the earnest thought of many minds and the devoted labour of many men. It would take me long, Your Majesty, to render justice to the distinguished teachers who have lectured within our walls, or to the public-minded citizens who have spent their time in its councils. Difficult as it would even be to select from among them, there is yet one man whom none will think it invidious in me to mention; whom all would regret my passing over in silence. From the earliest days of the institution everyone connected with it has been conscious of the devoted care and the far-sighted judgment given to its interests by Dr. Robert Spence Watson, a member of its original Council and happily present with us to-day.

The Governors view with satisfaction their College housed at last in its completed dwelling, served, as it always has been, by an able and zealous staff, and holding an assured place in the esteem and confidence of the people of the North country. Strengthened and encouraged, as they now are, by the gracious countenance Your Majesty has been pleased to bestow upon their work, they will go on with increased assurance, and trust that this auspicious day may be but the starting point of renewed endeavours on their part to render the College ever more and more of service to the welfare of Your Majesty's dominions.

That both Your Majesty and Your gracious and well-beloved Consort may enjoy long life, prosperity and happiness will always be our earnest prayer.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

“I thank you most cordially, on behalf of The Queen and Myself, for your loyal address, and for the good wishes which you express for Our welfare.

“Our admiration has been aroused by the magnificent buildings which we have great