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*Downing Street,
February 25, 1907.*

The following address was presented to His Majesty on the 23rd instant, on the occasion of Their Majesties' visit to the Royal Horticultural Hall for the purpose of opening the South African Products Exhibition:—

To Their Most Gracious Majesties King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra.

May it please Your Majesties, we, the Chairman and Members of the Executive Committee of the South African Products Exhibition, London, 1907, venture with our loyal duty and greeting to welcome Your Majesties in the name of the Administrations of Your Majesty's five Colonies in South Africa.

This Exhibition is the result of the joint efforts of the South African Governments and Your Majesty's subjects, to bring in a practical manner before the people of the United Kingdom a representation of the resources and products of the sub-continent.

It represents a new and gratifying movement in South Africa for the improvement of the products of the soil, and for the increase of their number, not only for home consumption, but for export to Great Britain and other countries.

If such a happy result be achieved it will not only promote the prosperity of South Africa, but increase its purchasing capacity, and tend to augment the value of the Colonies as markets for British manufactures.

It is with this twofold object that Your Majesty's loyal and humble subjects in South Africa have prepared and submit to You the large collection of typical products now arranged in this building.

Rejoicing that the Colonies of South Africa have thus been drawn together in new industrial

developments, we take this opportunity of conveying to Your Majesty, in the name of the Governments and people of South Africa, our and their unalterable loyalty and attachment to Your Throne and Person.

And in rendering also our heartfelt gratitude for Your Majesty's gracious presence here to-day, accompanied by Queen Alexandra, we do but express to Your Majesty the unanimous sentiments of all South Africans.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

P. C. VAN B. BAM, Chairman.
H. HANDCOCK, Secretary.

London, Feb. 23, 1907.

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

I thank you on behalf of the Queen and Myself for your loyal and dutiful address of welcome. It has given Us great pleasure to be able to open this Exhibition of the products of My South African Colonies. It is My strong and earnest desire that South Africa should advance in prosperity, and, relying upon the cordial co-operation of all My subjects, I view with confidence the future of that great, interesting, and important part of My dominions. This Exhibition affords evidence that, rich as South Africa is in gold and diamonds, it also possesses still more permanent sources of prosperity in the agricultural capacities of the sub-continent. It is satisfactory to Me to know that this Exhibition is the result of the combined efforts of the several South African Governments. In this common action I see an additional proof of that essential unity of South Africa, the realization of which in every sense is an object near to My heart.