

unwavering loyalty of the inhabitants of our Boroughs.

Your Majesties have always displayed a kindly and generous interest in all peoples and races throughout Your dominions, which fact was shown by Your tour of the Colonies some few years ago, and is emphasised by Your Majesties' contemplated visit to India during the present year.

We who are engaged in the administration of the Municipal affairs of the Metropolitan Boroughs recognise and deeply appreciate the interest that has always been evinced by Your Majesties in matters relating to the Local Government of Your people, and remember with gratitude the practical sympathy and assistance that Your Majesties have given to the furthering of Municipal enterprises for the well-being of the community.

Your Royal Progress through the northern portion of London this day is a proof of Your Majesties' interest in the happiness and welfare of Your subjects residing within the Capital of the British Empire, and the largest and most populous City of the world.

By such kindly thoughts and such gracious actions on the part of Your Majesties the feelings of loyalty and respect of Your subjects must ever be widened and deepened.

We earnestly hope and humbly pray that the blessings of Heaven may continue to be poured upon Your Majesties and upon the Members of Your Family, and that Almighty God may be pleased to guide and sustain You in the time that is to be, and that You may long be spared to reign over a loyal, contented and understanding people.

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

The Queen and I thank you for this cordial expression of the loyalty and affection of the millions who dwell in the great Metropolitan Boroughs North of the Thames.

We shall treasure your words of congratulation on Our Accession and Coronation, and We are sensible of your sympathy in Our endeavours to discharge the duties to which We have been called.

We recognise especially the support afforded to Us by the public spirit and disinterested zeal of those who, whether as councillors or officers, devote themselves to the government of the seventeen municipalities which you represent.

The development and maintenance of a vigorous civic life in the many boroughs of London is confronted with some difficulties to which communities less vast and less varied are not exposed: and at the same time social problems in the metropolis have assumed a scale and a complexity unequalled elsewhere.

Our special commendation is therefore due to those who through their sense of local patriotism are willing to bear the burden and to conduct the administration with a resolve that all difficulties shall be faced and overcome.

We join in your prayers for the peace and contentment of all Our people, and so long as

God is pleased to spare Us We will strive to deserve the blessings you ask on Our behalf.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGHES SOUTH OF THE THAMES.

To Their Most Excellent Majesties King George and Queen Mary.

The loyal and dutiful Address of the Mayors, Aldermen and Councillors of the Metropolitan Boroughs of Battersea, Bermondsey, Camberwell, Deptford, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark, Wandsworth, and Woolwich.

*May it please Your Majesties,*

We, Your Majesties' loyal and dutiful subjects, representing the whole of the inhabitants of the South London Boroughs, desire to convey to Your Majesties the expression of our heartfelt congratulations upon the occasion of Your Majesties' Coronation.

The Empire over which Your Majesties have been called upon to rule is one which exercises a vast influence over the nations and peoples of the world, and we desire to assure Your Majesties that You may always rely on the support and devoted attachment of Your Majesties' loyal subjects to lighten, to some extent, the burden of this responsibility.

Your Majesties' visits to almost every part of the extensive dominions of the Crown have given Your Majesties a wide and intimate knowledge of the wants and desires of the various peoples forming the British Empire, and we remember how the whole country was roused by the stirring words of His Majesty "Wake up, England!", showing the keen interest taken by His Majesty in the progress already made by the other nations of the world, and His fear that England might rest too much on its past.

We recall with pleasure the numerous occasions on which Your Majesties have visited and manifested a marked interest in the hospitals, educational institutions, and municipal enterprises in South London, and especially that on which Your Majesties recently opened the Festival of Empire, which, it is hoped, will tend to bring home to the country some knowledge of the extent and influence of the Empire, its glorious achievements in the past, and the many opportunities afforded to the nation for advancement.

We rejoice that His Majesty, in initiating extensive improvements in the estates in South London of the Duchy of Cornwall, to the great benefit of the inhabitants, especially those of the poorer classes, has shown a practical appreciation of one of the most important branches of local government.

In our Address to His late lamented Majesty King Edward upon His Coronation, reference was made to the beneficial results which we expected to see established by the recent creation of the Metropolitan Boroughs, and we venture to express the hope that our anticipations have to some extent been fulfilled.