

warmth of the welcome which the great Borough of West Ham has extended to Us.

No ceremony affords Me greater pleasure than to inaugurate an undertaking such as the new Reservoir which We are to open to-day—a work which cannot fail to prove beneficial in the highest degree to the health and welfare of the dense population of My Metropolis.

I rejoice that the people of West Ham will share in the benefit derived from this work, and you may rest assured that I shall always have at heart the well-being and prosperity of this great industrial centre which has risen so swiftly to a place among the largest Boroughs of My Dominions.

WEST HAM BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

To Their Most Gracious Majesties
King George V. and Queen Mary.

The Humble, Loyal and Dutiful Address of the Guardians of the Poor of the West Ham Union, in the County Borough of West Ham and the County of Essex.

Most Gracious Sovereigns,

We, the Board of Guardians of the West Ham Union, most humbly and respectfully beg to lay before Your Majesties an expression of our loyal and dutiful attachment, and to tender our sincere appreciation of Your illustrious presence here to-day, and our grateful thanks for the happiness and privilege afforded to us of welcoming You.

We recall with pleasure the many proofs which Your Majesties have given of Your active sympathy with and deep interest in the Poor and the Sick, with whose care and welfare we are more especially identified. We humbly venture to remind Your Majesties that day by day over 17,000 of these less fortunate of Your subjects are being directly assisted by us from public funds, and Your repeated acts of beneficence and of kindness in alleviating distress, encourage and stimulate us in our difficult and at times depressing work of administering the laws for the relief of the poor in this exceedingly needy and densely-populated Union area.

We take this opportunity of assuring Your Majesties that Your gracious visit will ever remain a pleasant memory in the minds of the people, and we earnestly pray that Your Majesties may long be spared to rule over Your loyal and devoted subjects.

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

The Queen and I have much pleasure in receiving your loyal and dutiful Address, and We thank you heartily for the warmth of your welcome and the sincerity of your good wishes.

Your exacting and responsible duties as Guardians of the Poor are increased in a large Union like that of West Ham inhabited by a great industrial population among whom the fluctuations of fortune are keenly felt. The honourable task of ministering to the poor and

the sick demands wisdom, sympathy and courage in a high degree. We are confident that you will continue to carry out your obligations with a strong sense of public duty, and We earnestly hope that your endeavours may help to relieve distress and improve the lot of those who have fallen on evil days.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STEPNEY.

To Their Most Excellent Majesties
King George and Queen Mary.

The Loyal and Dutiful Address of the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Metropolitan Borough of Stepney.

May it please Your Majesties,

On behalf of the inhabitants of the above-named Borough, consisting of nearly 300,000 persons, and also on our own behalf, we desire to express to You our sincere gratitude for this opportunity, so graciously afforded us, of conveying to You an expression of the loyalty and devotion which we, and those we represent, entertain to Your Thrones and Persons.

The Borough with which we are privileged to be associated contains within its area, in addition to the Royal Mint, that great monument of English History and former Royal Palace, the Tower of London. In addition, it has within its confines the London Hospital, which reminds us of Your practical sympathy and co-operation in the work of that and similar philanthropic institutions established for the alleviation of sickness and distress.

Since our incorporation, Your Majesties have honoured the Borough of Stepney with Your presence on several occasions. Particularly, we pray leave to refer to Your visit to us in the month of June, 1902, when approximately 45,000 persons in humble circumstances participated, as guests of Your Royal and illustrious Father, in celebration of the Coronation of Himself and Queen Alexandra.

We recognise, in the inauguration by You of the new Chingford Reservoir of the Metropolitan Water Board, a further illustration of the great interest You so consistently take in all objects designed to meet the necessities, and which conduce to the well-being of those whose lot is cast in and around this vast capital of Your Dominions.

In conclusion, we earnestly pray that Your Majesties may long be spared to continue Your unceasing efforts in aid of the beneficent projects so dear to Your hearts and which have drawn to You the sincere affection and gratitude of Your loyal and dutiful subjects throughout Your vast Dominions.

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

I thank you most heartily on behalf of the Queen and Myself for your loyal and dutiful Address.

We remember with pleasure Our previous visits to the Borough of Stepney to which you so kindly refer, and shall always follow with