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FRIDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER, 1921.

Whitehall, September 9th, 1921.

The following Addresses were laid before the King on the 24th August, 1921:—

CONVOCAATION OF CANTERBURY.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

We, Your Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury in Convocation assembled, approach Your Majesty with the dutiful assurance of our devotion to Your Majesty's Throne and Person.

It is less than three years since we last had the privilege of presenting an Address to Your Majesty at the opening of a new Convocation. On that occasion we ventured to make special reference to an important scheme, then under consideration, by which we hoped to secure for the Church a larger liberty of action and a greater capacity for adjusting its organisation to the opportunities of the new age. Within a year that scheme was transformed into actual fact. In December, 1919, the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act received Your Majesty's gracious assent, and took its place upon the Statute Book. The National Assembly of the Church of England was

called fully into being, and the very first duty which the Act laid upon the Assembly was the passing of a measure declaring that the Convocations of Canterbury and York have power, by canon lawfully passed and promulged, to amend the constitution of the Lower Houses thereof. And it is as the outcome of that measure and the large reforms in our constitution undertaken in accordance with that measure that we have the honour to address Your Majesty to-day.

The new Canon has been lawfully enacted and promulged. The old Convocation has been dissolved under Your Majesty's writ and a new body, with a Lower House of a different composition, enters upon its task. It is our earnest hope and prayer that the reformed Convocation, with its far larger representation of the parochial clergy, may be enabled to set forward the glory of God more faithfully, and to render more vigorous service to our brethren.

When two years ago we addressed Your Majesty our minds were centred upon the Peace Conference assembled in Paris. With high hopes we, and our fellow countrymen, looked forward to the new and better world, the new and better England, which were to be created out of the war. These hopes have