

and love and may long retain a happy memory of your visit to us is the ardent hope of your most loyal subjects, the Court, Convocation and Members of the University of Bristol.

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

I sincerely thank the Court, Convocation and Members of the University of Bristol for their welcome. I have much pleasure in opening these magnificent buildings, erected in memory of the first Chancellor of the University through the splendid generosity of his sons—one of whom, to the deep regret of all, has not lived to see the completion of a work to which he dedicated not only wealth, but many years of thought and care. He has however, left for those who come after an inspiring example of unremitting devotion to a high ideal, and his share in this noble family memorial will ever be gratefully remembered—for assuredly nothing should be more productive of enduring good than the endowment of higher learning.

You have set before me in eloquent outline the lofty aims of the University of Bristol—aims which, I am glad to think, unite the youngest and the eldest of our universities in an undivided fellowship of national service. To hold in trust for the common use the treasures of past thought: to provide for the creative minds of the present a congenial and stimulating home: to give to all the opportunity of a liberal education in the arts and sciences: to animate men and women with worthy ideals of clear thinking and social usefulness: to spread the pure light of disinterested studies over an ever-widening circle, these are some of the essential and ennobling duties of the Universities. Their responsibilities are heavy as their opportunities are great: and they can only rise to the full measure of their task if they be strong in public sympathy and support. I am therefore glad to hear that, not only the City of Bristol, but also neighbouring counties and important cities are giving practical proof of a firm belief in the value of the work of this University, and evincing a determination to help in the extension of that work to ever higher levels of achievement.

The new buildings of Bristol University are a conspicuous and beautiful landmark in this ancient City: and serve not only to keep afresh the remembrance of a great gift, but also to remind the friends of the University of their obligation to ensure that this gift, so nobly bestowed, be worthily used to the advancement of learning.

THE SOCIETY OF MERCHANT VENTURERS.

We the Master, Wardens and Commonalty of the Society of Merchant Venturers of Bristol humbly desire to present to Your Majesties an address of welcome on the occasion of Your Majesties' visit to this City. We venture to remind Your Majesties that on the occasion of your visit to Bristol in 1912 you showed us this act of favour and allowed us to express our sentiments of loyalty and devotion to the Throne and that since that date His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has graciously been pleased to accept the Freedom of our ancient Society.

In those distant days when our Guild first took shape the activities of our Society were chiefly concerned in the regulation of the sea-borne trade of this Port and in the promotion of those voyages of adventure and discovery which contributed so largely to the foundation of the maritime supremacy of this realm. Those stirring days are past but their romance and memory survive and will, we feel sure, touch a responsive chord in the heart of one who like Your Majesty has had his business in great waters.

In later years the energies of our Society have been diverted into other channels and have been mainly engaged in the administration of the Charitable Funds committed to our care and in the provision of educational opportunities for the inhabitants of Bristol and the adjoining Counties. In this connection we venture to refer to the Boys' and Girls' Schools supported by the funds vested in us as Trustees by that great Philanthropist of the XVIIIth Century Edward Colston; to the Merchant Venturers' Technical College built, equipped and financed by the Society; and to the part taken by the Society in the formation and maintenance of the University of Bristol. Nor would it be fitting to omit the name of one whose memory will ever live as that of a Prince among the Benefactors of this City, the late Henry Herbert Wills an Honorary Member of our Society whose gifts to the University of Bristol were only surpassed in munificence by those devoted by him to the erection, equipment and endowment of a Home of Rest for Chronic and Incurable Sufferers, a great and splendid Charity of which he appointed our Society to be the Administrative Trustees.

Your Majesties did this City the great honour of a Royal visit in the Year 1912 to inaugurate the New Wing then lately added to the Royal Infirmary and now Your Majesties graciously repeat that honour to inaugurate buildings erected, not to minister to the necessities of the body, but to furnish in fitting beauty and state a Home for those high ideals of education and research in which the needs and aspirations of the mind of man seek satisfaction.

That Your Majesties may live long and happily and that under Your wise and beneficent rule the blessings of Peace may abound and heal the wounds inflicted by War abroad and industrial strife at home is the earnest prayer of Your Majesties' devoted subjects the Merchant Venturers of Bristol.

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

I thank you very sincerely for your Address and for the spirit of loyalty and affection to which it gives expression. I am glad to receive again the greetings of your ancient and famous Society, and all the more so because, since my last visit to Bristol, a new tie between my House and the Society of Merchant Venturers has been created by the reception of my son into your Membership.

You have referred with natural and legitimate pride to the long and striking history of your Society. It is a living testimony to the enduring greatness and the continuing vitality of Bristol that in the Merchant Venturers, as in the Livery Companies of the City of London,