

Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Cambridge, humbly approach Your Royal presence to offer the expression of Our deep sympathy with the great sorrow which has befallen Your Majesty and the British Empire. In common with all Our fellow subjects We mourn the beloved Queen whose lofty example of devotion to duty and whose great qualities of character and heart had won for Her in a supreme degree the universal reverence and affection of Her people. To the personal influence of the Sovereign it was largely due that the changes, political and social, which occurred under Her reign were effected in tranquility, and that the progressive expansion of Her dominions was not accompanied by any weakening of unity. Her profound knowledge of affairs, Her singular sagacity in difficult questions of government and legislation, the wonderful sureness and delicacy of Her judgment have constantly been attested by the statesmen who were called to Her counsels. They alone could measure the whole extent of our debt to Her personal care and wisdom. But all can estimate the vast accession of strength which the Nation derived from the devotion which She inspired—a devotion which was the fairest pillar of our State and the dearest bond of a world-wide Empire. By the virtues and the graces of Her own high nature the Queen elevated Her people. While she was the ideal of a constitutional ruler, She was also a pattern of pure and generous womanhood, one whose simple charm came home to the humblest, touching them with a sense of human kinship in the deepest needs of human life. Her reign has been an age in which every kind of good work or worthy effort has been fostered by the favour of the Sovereign, and has been lifted to a higher level by such encouragement as only the Sovereign could bestow. With deep thankfulness we recognize that this great Reign, which marks an era for our Country, has been the most beneficent in its annals, and in the hour of bereavement we reverently acknowledge those incalculable blessings to the Empire and to mankind which will be associated for all time to come with the name and the memory of Queen Victoria.

In offering to Your Majesty the humble expression of our condolence on this solemn occasion, we beg leave also to tender our respectful congratulations on Your Majesty's accession to the Throne of Your ancestors, and to assure You of our loyal attachment to Your Majesty's Person. The heartfelt good wishes which greet the commencement of Your Majesty's reign are nowhere more earnest than in the ancient University of which Your Majesty is a member, over which the illustrious Prince, Your Majesty's father, once presided, and which is bound by so many ties of affection, gratitude, and sympathy to Your Majesty and Your Royal House. We humbly pray that under the blessing of Divine Providence Your Gracious Majesty may long reign in the hearts of a free, contented, and united people whose love is the heritage of Your Throne; and that amidst the duties and cares of Your exalted station Your Majesty and Your august Consort may be attended with every happiness which the devotion of Your subjects could desire.

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

"I GLADLY receive you here to-day, in accordance with your ancient privilege, which records so honourably the traditional loyalty of the University of Cambridge to the Throne.

"The words in which you bear testimony to the great qualities of character and heart of My dear Mother, the late Queen, and to Her powerful example and influence for good are an eloquent expression of thoughts which have found universal utterance to the very great consolation of Myself and the members of My family, and I thank you for them.

"I thank you also most heartily for your congratulations, and for your good wishes for Myself and My Consort, and I confidently trust that the University of Cambridge, of which I am proud to be a member, will continue to send forth into the world men endowed with the gift of leading in all labours that have for their end the service of God, the maintenance and development of the Empire, and the welfare of humanity at large."

Whitehall, February 26, 1901.

THE following Address was presented to His Majesty at Marlborough House on the 23rd instant:—

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Humble Address of the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society for Promoting Natural Knowledge.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Promoting Natural Knowledge, humbly beg leave to offer our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy with Your Majesty in the great sorrow which has befallen You in the death of Your beloved Mother, our late Sovereign Lady the Queen. Your Majesty's loss is our loss also: a loss not only to ourselves, not only to all Your Majesty's subjects throughout the Empire, but to the whole world. During Your beloved Mother's wise and beneficent reign under Her thoughtful fostering care that natural knowledge which the Society was founded by one of Your Ancestors to promote has been promoted to an extent, and in ways, never known before; and we feel sure that not in our time only but in the years to come, to the story of the advance of science in the past century will be most closely linked the memory of the goodness, the wisdom, the peerless worth of the august and beloved Lady, whose death has now plunged us into the deepest grief.

While thus uttering words of sorrow, we ask leave, Sire, at the same time, to lay at Your Majesty's feet our unfeigned and heartfelt congratulation upon Your Majesty's accession to the Throne of Your ancestors to reign over a people to whom happily Your Majesty is no stranger, but who have, by many experiences, learnt to recognize Your great worth, and have been led to the sure hope that under Your gracious rule the Nation will continue to hold the proud position which it has gained under the guidance of Your beloved Mother.

That Your Majesty's reign may be long, happy, and glorious, and that You may rule in the hearts as well over the persons of a loving, dutiful, and grateful people is the earnest wish and ardent prayer of Your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London.

William Huggins,
President, Royal Society.

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

"I AM much gratified by the warm expression of your loyalty and affection, of your profound sympathy with Our present grief, and of your