

To His Most Excellent Majesty King George V.

The Loyal and Dutiful Address of the Metropolitan Water Board, presented the 15th day of March, 1913.

The Metropolitan Water Board respectfully beg to express their gratitude for the gracious condescension of Your Majesty and Her Majesty the Queen in visiting the newly-constructed Chingford Reservoir in the Valley of the Lee. Three hundred years ago the royal solicitude and financial succour of King James the First enabled the waters of that Valley to be brought by the New River from the Springs of Amwell and Chadwell to London, and it is a coincidence of great interest and a circumstance of distinguished favour to the Water Board that, in the Tercentenary of the New River, Your Majesties should graciously honour the Board by inaugurating the last and greatest of the Reservoirs constructed in the Valley of the Lee for the purpose of meeting the ever-increasing demands of the Metropolis and parts adjacent for a copious supply of pure and wholesome water. In the furtherance of that purpose the Board have expended on new works at Chingford and elsewhere a sum approaching £3,000,000 since they assumed the control of the water undertaking in the year 1904, and additional works involving a further cost of £1,600,000 will shortly be commenced in the Valley of the Thames. The laying out of such large sums of public money involves many anxieties and great responsibilities, but these the Board bear willingly, heartened and encouraged as they are by the gracious sympathy and interest of Your Majesties. The Board most humbly pray that Your Majesties may long be spared to stimulate and assist the local authorities of the Kingdom with "the King's most gracious love" for enterprises great and small in furtherance of the public weal.

Given under the Common Seal of the Board the day and year aforesaid.

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

The Queen and I are very glad to be present to-day to inaugurate the Chingford Reservoir and to witness the completion of this part of your enterprise.

It is interesting to recall the association of My Ancestor with the inception of London's water supply, when the New River was formed to carry the springs of the River Lee to the heart of the City.

The accomplishment of this arduous task in the year 1613 was largely due to a distinguished Welshman, Sir Hugh Myddelton, whose dauntless nature overcame unending difficulties and opposition; and the first official act of his brother, Sir Thomas Myddelton, who was elected Lord Mayor of London the same year, was to perform a ceremony such as I have undertaken to-day.

The Citizens of London will do well to remember that after three centuries they still owe a debt of gratitude to the Lee for the remarkable purity of their water supply.

Since the days of King James the First the problem has become immeasurably greater with the constant widening of London's boundaries

and the vast increase of her population. The large sums, which the Metropolitan Water Board have found it necessary to spend in new works, bear witness to the magnitude of their task, and it is easy to realise the heavy burden which falls on those responsible for the policy and administration of such great undertakings.

You are justly proud of this Reservoir, which is a splendid monument to the energy of your officers, the skill of your engineers and the industry of your workmen. We congratulate you warmly on the success of your labours, and we shall ever follow with interest the continued progress of this important undertaking so vital to the health and well-being of the Capital of My Empire.

Crown Office,

March 18, 1913.

Days and places appointed for holding the Intermediate Spring Assizes, 1913:—

NORTHERN CIRCUIT.

Mr. Justice Bankes.  
Mr. Justice Rowlatt.

Monday, March 31, at Liverpool (Civil and Criminal).

Monday, April 21, at Manchester (Civil and Criminal).

NORTH-EASTERN CIRCUIT.

Mr. Justice Darling.  
Mr. Justice Bailhache.

Saturday, April 26, at Leeds (Civil and Criminal).

Crown Office,

March 20, 1913.

MEMBERS returned to serve in the present PARLIAMENT.

*County of Durham, Houghton-le-Spring Division.*

Thomas Edward Wing, Esq., in the place of Robert Cameron, Esq., deceased.

*County of Westmoreland, Southern or Kendal Division.*

John Wakefield Weston, Esq., in the place of Colonel Josceline Fitzroy Bagot, deceased.

Foreign Office,

March 20, 1913.

His Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has reported to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, by telegraph, that the Ottoman Government will henceforth treat as contraband all foodstuffs, supplies and grain