

famine in Ireland, thy reign, in the gracious providence of our Heavenly Father, has been one of steady progress to the nation, and of mercies more than can be numbered.

Whilst we would in a spirit, we trust, of Christian humility, mingle our words of congratulation with those of unfeigned regret that war should have so often disturbed a reign otherwise marked by so much blessing, we have thankfully remembered that it was with thy own hand thou wast pleased to commend to thy subjects as a fitting motto for the Jubilee Year, the angelic anthem announcing the Saviour's reign, "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men."

We have learned with great satisfaction that thy Government has taken the initiative in preparing a measure for the settlement by arbitration of all differences between this country and the United States of America.

In the dark cloud which now, we trust only for a time, overshadows thy Indian Empire, the sufferings of so many millions of our famine-stricken fellow subjects justly claim our deepest sympathy. Whilst hailing with satisfaction the vigorous measures adopted for their relief, we would express our warm desire that this afflictive dispensation may serve afresh impressibly to remind us of the solemn obligation, inseparable from our assumption of the Empire of India, for the firm and unflinching maintenance of a wise and Christian policy in all our relations to our fellow subjects throughout that vast dependency.

Looking to the enormous increase which has taken place within thy reign in the possessions and influence of this country throughout the world, we are cheered by the persuasion that it is thy earnest desire that this great stewardship of influence may ever be exerted in the maintenance of equal right and justice towards all the peoples and races within thy vast dominions; and that the simple Christianity of our Lord Jesus Christ presented to us in Holy

Scripture as the only foundation for the welfare either of individuals or of nations, may ever continue to be the stability of thy throne, and to guide and control the acts of thy Government.

That thou, our beloved Sovereign, mayst be spared for years to come, to exercise thy beneficent rule over thy widely extended dominions; and that when thy earthly service shall have been fulfilled, thou mayst in the Lord's unmerited mercy, be permitted through His redeeming grace to enter with acceptance into His immediate presence to serve Him without weariness, and with everlasting praise, is the fervent prayer of thy loyal and faithful subjects.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting.

ALBERT J. CROSFIELD,  
Clerk.

---

#### THE QUEEN'S REPLY.

I thank you for your dutiful address, and I am much pleased at receiving again in person the congratulations and loyal good wishes of the Society of Friends.

I share your gratitude to Almighty God for the blessings He has vouchsafed to my people, among which none have been a greater consolation to me than the peace and social order on which the prosperity of my country is based, and the growth of that spirit of philanthropy and consideration for others, without which welfare would be unattended with happiness.

I pray that these good influences which the Society of Friends have so honorably upheld may ever prevail among my subjects.—*From the British Friend.*

---

One is scarcely sensible of fatigue whilst he marches to music. The very stars are said to make harmony as they revolve in their spheres. Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness, altogether past calculation its power of endurance.