

be erected worthy of her Empire. Before sitting down, I am anxious, on this occasion, to tender my thanks—my sincerest thanks—to Lord Herschell and those gentlemen who have given so much time and labour, and have acted as my council of advice in framing this scheme. I am anxious to tender them my best thanks for what they have done, and to you all once more, gentlemen, for the honour you have conferred upon me, and once again to thank you for coming so generously on this occasion. I only hope that it may be convenient for most of you to attend the meeting which has been called by the Lord Mayor this afternoon at half-past three.

The proceedings then terminated.

Mansion House.

REPORT of the Proceedings at a Public Meeting held in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House, in the City of London, on Wednesday, 12th January, 1887. More than a thousand citizens and others were present.

THE Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR (Sir REGINALD HANSON, Kt., F.S.A.) took the chair at half-past three o'clock, and was supported by a large number of noblemen and gentlemen.

THE LORD MAYOR: Gentlemen—This is a meeting principally I think of citizens, but of all who are interested in the Imperial Institute of the United Kingdom, the colonies and India, of which his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is the president. I have had very great pleasure as Lord Mayor in acceding to the request which has been made to me to have this meeting held in the Egyptian Hall. You know very well the history of the institution which we are met to support, how the Prince of Wales some few months ago addressed a letter to my predecessor, Sir John Staples, how, after that, he appointed an Organizing Committee to advise him on the best way of carrying into effect the views which he entertained with reference to the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and I have asked those of you who entertain the same views to be here present to-day for the purpose of furthering the interests of this national memorial. Now I may say at the outset that this is by no means the only memorial of Her Majesty's Jubilee which has been contemplated, but I think that whilst particular localities may very properly each and all have their own Jubilee memorial, there should be one especially for the whole of the Kingdom and the whole of the Empire to show the feelings which they profess, and which I believe they all have, of gratitude for the benefits we have received during the fifty years of Her Majesty's happy reign. Gentlemen, I had the pleasure to-day of being present at the meeting held at St. James's Palace, where His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was in the chair, and many of those whom I see here now were present. One can understand how difficult it is for one of the members of the Royal Family to express the views of the Sovereign—but in reading between the lines we can well understand what is Her Majesty's view on the subject. The Prince said this: "From the close relation in which I stand to the Queen, there can be no impropriety in my stating that if her subjects desire, on the occasion of the celebration of her fiftieth year as Sovereign of this great Empire, to offer her a memorial of their love and loyalty, she would specially value one which would promote the industrial and commercial resources of her dominions in various parts of the world, and which would be expressive of that unity and co-operation which Her Majesty desires should prevail among all classes and races of her extended Empire." I think we can gather from that pretty clearly what Her Majesty's views would be if she felt at liberty to express them, and therefore we may take it that in this particular form, our gratitude to the Queen can be shown in the way which will most sufficiently satisfy Her Majesty herself. Of course, no doubt, there are objections to the details of this scheme as there are objections to the details of every scheme which has ever been propounded, or that ever will be propounded by human ingenuity of any jubilee which has ever been or ever will be called into existence for any purpose whatever. Some plans have been put forward even as regards this particular undertaking, but I would just remind you, especially with regard to one objection which I have heard made, that if the memorial is to be a spontaneous expression of our love and affection for the Queen, it must come from ourselves, and from our own pockets, and it must be offered freely, because a gift which is extorted loses half its value; therefore any scheme which would necessitate application to Parliament for funds either in aid of it, or which would necessitate the sustentation to be largely or entirely supplied by Parliament, would fail in the canon which I have ventured to suggest to you, namely, that it must be a freewill offering of the people. Anything which is taken from the taxes would be anything but a freewill offering, and therefore I should be sorry to recommend it, and I am quite sure Her Majesty the Queen would be loth to accept it. I will be very brief and not take up your time unnecessarily. I have had letters and telegrams of sympathy from a great many gentlemen, I will just read a few of their names, it will take too long to read the letters at length, but it will show you the vast interest which has been taken on this subject, and with reference to this particular meeting, because they are addressed to me by men of distinction from all parts of Her Majesty's dominions—the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Duke of Athol, the Duke of Westminster, the Marquis of Ripon, the Marquis of Hartington (who has written me a very long letter expressing his extreme regret that he is not able to come here), the Earl of Elgin, Earl Stair, Lord Carnarvon, Earl Strafford (the Lord Lieutenant of this County), Lord Northbrook, Mr. Chamberlain (who also wrote me a long letter in which he was equally cordial as to the objects of the meeting), the Lord Advocate, Mr. Joseph Coven, Mr. Thomas Burt, and a great many others. I will now ask Earl Granville to move the first resolution.

Earl GRANVILLE: My Lord Mayor, my Lords and gentlemen—I with very great pleasure accepted the honour imposed upon me of taking a part in these proceedings; but while I feel I owe something of an excuse to you for doing so, that excuse ought to be stronger in consequence of the absence, I presume from the delay of a train, of an old personal friend of mine, a political opponent, but for whose character both in public and in private I have the highest possible respect, I mean Lord Iddesleigh. The resolution which I have been called upon to propose to you is to this effect: "That this meeting, desiring to express its grateful recognition of the blessings which have been