



To the Queen's
Most Excellent Majesty

*A Record of the
Loyal and Humble Addresses
and the
Gracious Replies
during the Royal Tour of Nigeria
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1956*

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ROYAL TOUR OF NIGERIA
1956






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Most Excellent Majesty



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On the occasion of the Arrival of Her Majesty at the Lagos Municipal Boundary on Saturday, 28 January

TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

THE HUMBLE, LOYAL AND DUTIFUL ADDRESS OF THE LAGOS TOWN COUNCIL

May it please Your Majesty:

We, the President, Chairman, Traditional Members and Councillors of the Town of Lagos, on our own behalf and on behalf of the Chiefs and people of Lagos, do humbly desire to offer to Your Most Excellent Majesty and to His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, a most loyal and affectionate welcome on this Your first visit to the Capital of the Federation of Nigeria. We thank Your Majesty most sincerely for the signal honour which You have conferred on us by Your Gracious presence in our midst today.

This young but historic town, which came under the British influence in 1851, virtually opened the gate for British penetration into territories now known as the Federation of Nigeria. Since the 6th day of August, 1861, when the British flag was first hoisted in the Royal Palace of Lagos, commonly known as Iga Idunganran, during the reign of Your Majesty's ancestor, Queen Victoria, this Town has reaped the benefits of *Pax Britannica*, and has progressed steadily in commerce and industry until today it can proudly claim to be one of the jewels in Your Majesty's Realms and Territories.

In welcoming Your Majesty to the Federal Capital we are reminded of the visit to our shores in 1925 of Your Majesty's illustrious Uncle, The Prince of Wales (as he then was) whom we remember with the deepest affection and admiration.

We beg to assure Your Majesty of our most loyal and devoted attachment to Your Person and Throne, of our unfailing support in the heavy task of Sovereignty, and of our earnest and constant prayers that the Almighty God may bless Your Majesty with health and wisdom, and that You may reign long and happily over Your Peoples.

GIVEN under our Common Seal this 28th day of January One thousand nine hundred and fifty six.

OBA ADENIJI-ADELE II
President

ADEYEMI OLUSHOLA LAWSON
Chairman

DANIEL MODUPE OLASUPO AKINBIYI
Town Clerk

To which address Her Majesty was pleased to make this Gracious reply:

Mr President:

I thank you and the Chiefs and people of Lagos for your loyal Address and for the warm and friendly welcome with which you have received me and my husband.

On this our first day in Nigeria we are glad to be amongst the people of the capital, who for nearly a century have belonged to the large family of the British Commonwealth.

We look forward with pleasure to seeing more of your country during our stay here, and more of your people, some of whom formed such a memorable contingent at my Coronation.

I trust that the progress and the development of Lagos will continue and my husband joins me in wishing you all every success and good fortune in the years to come.

On the occasion of the Presentation of New Colours to the 2nd Battalion, The Nigeria Regiment, at the Racecourse, Lagos, on Monday, 30 January

Gracious Address delivered by Her Majesty

Colonel Lerwill, Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 2nd Battalion, The Nigeria Regiment

As Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal West African Frontier Force, I am very pleased to have this opportunity of inspecting a battalion of the Nigeria Regiment on parade and of presenting new Colours to you. The Colours which you have just saluted for the last time have been carried by the 2nd Battalion for over twenty years and under them the Battalion has added further laurels to the reputation which it had already won in the First World War. It will long be remembered for its valiant service in Abyssinia and Burma, where the fearlessness and endurance of West African troops won the respect of both friend and foe. The name of Myohaung is specially associated with the Regiment and I was glad to be able to be present yesterday at the anniversary service in which I joined with you in honouring those members of the West African divisions who fought and died in the struggle for freedom in Burma.

In the past your Battalion has proved itself in War. I pray that in the future your service will be in days of peace: but if ever the call to fight were to come, I know that you would acquit yourselves as worthily as your predecessors.

Colours represent your loyalty to me and to your country and also embody the traditions of your Regiment. I am confident that you will guard them faithfully and with them those ideals of loyal service and devotion to duty for which the Nigeria Regiment holds an honoured name.

To which the following reply was made by the Officer Commanding (Lt-Col. G. Lerwill, O.B.E., M.C.), 2nd Battalion, The Nigeria Regiment

Your Majesty:

We are deeply conscious of the honour which you have done us, of the 2nd Battalion, The Nigeria Regiment, in graciously consenting to present the New Colours.

This day will rank in our memories with the proudest days in our Regimental History. The record of the Battalion is one of loyalty to the Sovereign and of devotion to its Colours, and on behalf of all ranks I pledge ourselves to continue to be Your Majesty's faithful and loyal soldiers and to continue the same long tradition of Service.

Our Colours, which we lay by today, have been dedicated in the blood of devoted British and African officers and men, whose bodies lie in far off countries and often in remote areas where there is nothing but jungle.

It will be our proud heritage to continue that tradition and to give Your Majesty the same faithful and loyal service as was rendered by our predecessors.

On the occasion of the Visit of Her Majesty to the House of Representatives on Tuesday, 31 January

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA

May it please Your Majesty:

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Representatives of Nigeria in Parliament assembled, beg leave humbly to offer to Your Majesty our most grateful thanks for the visit which it has pleased Your Majesty to make to our country and because of the intense feeling of loyalty which this unique occasion has evoked, humbly to ask that Your Majesty may be pleased to give leave to the Honourable Minister of Transport, the Honourable Minister of Communications and Aviation, and the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition to voice the hearty satisfaction and unbounded pleasure which Your Majesty's presence has occasioned to Your loving people and which we, their Representatives, have been unable to express within the confines of this formal Resolution.

B. A. MANUWA

Clerk of the House of Representatives

THE HUMBLE ADDRESS WAS SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING SPEECH BY THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
(THE HONOURABLE ABUBAKAR TAFAWA BALEWA, C.B.E., M.H.R.)

May it please Your Majesty:

We, the Members of the House of Representatives, offer to Your Majesty and to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh our hearty and most loyal welcome to Nigeria. We are most sincerely thankful to Your Majesty for the great honour conferred upon us by your visit. The British administration of Nigeria may be said to date back to August, 1861, when the British Government signed the treaty with King Docemo of Lagos. Since that date British administration has spread throughout the country as we know it today and Nigeria has made tremendous progress in every field. Our fathers and grandfathers learned the value of the British connection and today we realize how important it is that our country should remain within the British Commonwealth which is the only effective League of Nations that the world has seen. The progress which Nigeria has made, the establishment of peace, order and good Government in our land has all been due to the untiring hard work and perseverance of British officials, administrators and technical officers alike. I am proud to have this opportunity to express to Your Majesty in person the gratitude of my country to those officers in Your Majesty's Colonial Service, past and present, who have served Nigeria so faithfully.

Your Majesty's visit is a most important event in our history. Indeed, Your Majesty's presence in this House today is a sign that the joint enterprise of African and British, begun ninety-four years ago in Lagos, is nearing completion. We, the Members of this House wish to assure Your Majesty of our continued loyalty and affection to the British Crown.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND AVIATION (THE HONOURABLE K. O. MBADIWE, M.H.R.)
THEN DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING SPEECH IN SUPPORT OF THE HUMBLE ADDRESS

May it please Your Majesty:

On this most historic occasion I rise with pride to support my Honourable friend in presenting to Your Majesty on behalf of this House and of the peoples of Nigeria a loyal Address of Welcome.

This is a day which will always be remembered in our history. For the first time we, the elected representatives of thirty million Nigerians living in a vast and varied country, have the proud privilege of welcoming Your Majesty's Most Gracious Presence here in our own country and in our own Council Chamber. We are very conscious of the great honour which you have bestowed on us and we humbly beg you to accept our most loyal and devoted duty to your Person and your Throne.

Your Majesty has already visited many parts of the great and varied Commonwealth of Nations of which you are the Head. Even in a tour as crowded and strenuous as that which Your Majesty has so graciously undertaken you will see but a small part of this great Nigeria but Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will find a welcome as warm and joyful, and affection as loyal and deep as anywhere in the Commonwealth.

Nigeria has long been well known in the markets of the world for its palm oil and ground-nuts, its cocoa, timber, tin and many other commodities. But we are still an under-developed country and there is a great need for the expansion of trade and industry, if the standard of living of our people is to be raised to a reasonable level. The Federal Government is about to embark on an extensive programme of development which, together with the individual efforts of the Regional Governments, should do much to hasten the economic evolution of the country.

But it is not only in the economic sphere that the pace of evolution is being accelerated. We have in recent years made great strides towards our political goal of self-government within Your Majesty's Commonwealth. Each passing year our bond with the United Kingdom is strengthened and fortified. This is achieved not by coercion, or by intimidation, or by show of strength which Your Majesty's Government has in abundance, but by employing the simple human touch in meeting human problems, by offering the best in English life and tradition to the service of the less developed areas of the world under Your Majesty's jurisdiction and authority, and above all by employing the spirit of adaptability in the ever-changing tides in world affairs. We salute Your Majesty, and we salute the formidable army of British Statesmen, who, working under your benevolent disposition, have carved a Commonwealth from among the continents of the world, as firmly entrenched as the Rock of Gibraltar, holding resolutely to its own whether in time of plenty or in time of distress.

Your Majesty, the Elizabethan age of the sixteenth century is celebrated in history. Renaissance blossomed, Religion received new impetus, Art, Drama, and the Theatre reached heights of fame and triumph. Seafaring and Navigation helped to stir people's imagination; far and distant lands were penetrated and discovered. Thus the foundation for a vast Empire under the British Crown was laid. Your Majesty, permit me, with all humility and reverence, to say that the second Elizabethan era of this our twentieth century has already distinguished itself in transforming the Empire into a vast Commonwealth. For us in this great country, it will be remembered as an era of freedom and fraternity for the dependent people under your Gracious Sovereignty. On the 1st of October, 1954, with Your Majesty's signification and pleasure this country was granted a measure of self-government under its new Constitution, an advance without parallel since our association with Great Britain. Your Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom

has agreed to allow the peoples of this country to decide on further constitutional advance in 1956 within the Commonwealth. That Your Majesty has come to Nigeria at this most fateful juncture, referred to here as the Year of our Destiny, augurs well for the future.

Britain's sense of justice, its efficient and competent civil service have become the heritage and legacy handed on to this country. These we shall always treasure, protect, defend.

We are thrilled beyond measure with your Visit. The peoples of Nigeria, with a single voice, pray that God may grant Your Majesty a happy and successful tour, a safe return to your dearly beloved children, and a long and glorious reign over the Commonwealth whose people love you so well.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (THE HONOURABLE CHIEF S. L. AKINTOLA, M.H.R.) MADE THE FOLLOWING SPEECH IN SUPPORT OF THE HUMBLE ADDRESS

May it please Your Majesty:

I associate myself with the noble sentiment of Nigeria's loyalty to, and affection for, the Person and the Throne of Your Gracious Majesty so ably expressed by my Honourable Friends. Whatever may be the differences in the political views of the Government and the Opposition in this Honourable House, I humbly assure Your Majesty that the voice of Nigeria is one - undivided and indivisible - in welcoming Your Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh to Nigeria. The Members of the Government as well as the members of the Opposition, who are the alternatives to them, are united in the common bond of loyalty to Your Majesty. As the symbol of our unity we, the Members of the House of Representatives, welcome Your Majesty to Nigeria and to the Federal Legislature.

We are deeply conscious of, and profoundly grateful for, the great honour conferred upon this Honourable House by Your Majesty's Graciousness in coming here today. The citizens of a country which, for well nigh one hundred years, have been drawing inspiration and receiving guidance from Britain will, out of gratitude, display the highest standard of loyalty, devotion and service to Your Majesty. Peace, order and good Government have been established in Nigeria. Illiteracy, which was the vogue in the country a century ago, is rapidly giving way to liberal education. Medical science and economic development have conspired to eliminate disease and squalor. Nigeria is on the march. We owe to a substantial degree the present standard of progress to the devotion, the industry and the integrity of British officials, administrators, educators and the technicians who have served in Nigeria.

The best evidence of the success of this class of officials is found in the rapidity and the thoroughness with which it trains and reproduces its like among the indigenous Nigerians to whom the administrative responsibility will ultimately be transferred. Let me seize this opportunity to place on record Nigeria's appreciation of the great work of the devoted men and women of all races in Your Majesty's Colonial Service who have served Her faithfully and efficiently.

Your Majesty's visit is a unique event in the history of Nigeria. It is significant that it is made at this time when we are aspiring towards self-government. The realization of our aspiration will not mean a severance of connection with Britain. Our relation with Britain will only enter into a new phase. As a member of the Commonwealth of Nations a self-governing Nigeria will maintain our connection with Britain through our loyalty and common allegiance to the Person and the Throne of Your Majesty, who is the symbol of the unity of the Commonwealth.

**Her Majesty was pleased to make the following Gracious Reply to the
Humble Address**

Mr Speaker and Honourable Members of the House of Representatives:

I thank you for the kind words of welcome and the sentiments of loyalty to which you have given such eloquent expression.

It gives great satisfaction to me and my husband that we should be able, at this most important stage of Nigeria's development, to visit this great country as it moves confidently forward to what I am sure will be a happy and fortunate future and a place of increasing significance in the modern world.

You in this Legislature represent a vast and populous Federation. We look forward to seeing something of your country in all its rich and interesting variety and to meeting as many as we can of its diversity of peoples. But we know – and we regret – that difficulties of time and distance will prevent our having more than a glimpse of all that lies between the Gulf of Guinea and the Sahara and of greeting more than a fraction of my thirty million people in Nigeria.

It is a particular cause of disappointment to me that I shall not be able on this occasion to visit the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom Administration. I am happy to know that special arrangements have been made for me to meet representatives of the peoples of the Territory. I hope to hear from them more about the progress which has been made under the guidance of the United Nations and in close association with Nigeria and to send through them my greetings and good wishes to the Territory as a whole.

The History of Nigeria as a united country is short; yet there is already much in it to praise. I have followed with interest the accounts of your social, political and economic progress. I rejoice that the efforts of those who have come to Nigeria from Britain and other Commonwealth countries have borne such good fruit and to hear today your grateful reference to your overseas public servants. I would add my own tribute to them and to the others – missionaries, doctors, traders and teachers – who by their skill, knowledge and devotion have done so much to develop this country and assist its peoples. But their work would have prospered little if there had been no answering effort from Nigerians themselves and I congratulate you that this response has been so quick and so full.

I wish on this historic occasion to make particular mention of those of all races who, in this Legislature and in those which have preceded it, have brought this great country so far along the road of its high destiny.

My husband and I have been deeply touched by the welcome you have given us. We, in return, bring to you the affection and the support of my other people in the United Kingdom whose eyes are turned on Nigeria today.

May God bless you all.

On the occasion of the Inauguration of the Courts of the Federation of Nigeria on Tuesday, 31 January

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:

THE MOST HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA
(THE HONOURABLE SIR STAFFORD FOSTER SUTTON, KT., C.M.G., O.B.E., Q.C.)

May it please Your Majesty:

It is with pride and pleasure that we greet Your Majesty and His Royal Highness on this very special occasion for the Judiciary of Nigeria.

Your Majesty will know that until now the Judicial system of Nigeria consisted of a Supreme Court, Magistrates' Courts, and Native Courts. There was one Chief Justice and a number of Puisne Judges in charge of the Judicial Divisions into which the country was then divided, and appeals from the Supreme Court lay to the West African Court of Appeal whose jurisdiction covered all Your Majesty's territories in West Africa, with the right of a final appeal in certain cases to Your Majesty in Council.

When Nigeria became a Federation it was considered right that this great country with its many millions of inhabitants should have a Judicial system complete with its own Court of Appeal.

We now have a High Court with its own Chief Justice and Judges in the Northern, Eastern, and Western Regions, a High Court for the capital, Lagos, and the Southern Cameroons, Magistrates' Courts and Native Courts, and a Federal Supreme Court, presided over by the Federal Chief Justice and Federal Justices, which is the final Court of Appeal in the Federation of Nigeria, and from which appeals lie to Your Majesty in Council.

It is the inauguration of this new system which Your Majesty has so graciously consented to mark by Your presence here today. We are deeply conscious of the honour You are conferring upon us, especially as I think I am right in saying that this is the first function of this nature that the Reigning Sovereign has attended.

Your Majesty's Judges, other Members of the Judiciary, Law Officers and Members of the Bar of this country take pride in this unique occasion which will be an inspiration to us all in the administration of Justice which is so vital to the maintenance of the Rule of Law.

The Judiciary of Nigeria humbly ask that Your Majesty will be pleased to accept this small token of our respect and devotion, and as a memento of this day.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of our devotion to Your Royal Person and of our earnest endeavour to see that at all times Justice shall be truly served here as in Your Majesty's other Realms and Territories. We pray that Your Majesty and His Royal Highness may be blessed with long life and happiness and that throughout Your Majesty's reign there may ever be peace and prosperity in the Commonwealth.

The following Speech was delivered in support by the Chief Justice of the High Court of Lagos and the Southern Cameroons (Mr Justice Maxime de Comarmond, Kt)

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:

THE MOST HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE CHIEF JUSTICES AND JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURTS OF NIGERIA
AND THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS

May it please Your Majesty:

We, the Chief Justices and Judges of the newly created High Courts tender to Your Majesty

and to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh a most loyal welcome on this Your first visit to Nigeria.

We are deeply conscious of the great honour conferred upon the Judiciary of this Territory by Your Majesty's graciousness in coming here today to inaugurate the new system of Courts.

It has been the constant aim of Your Majesty's Judges in Nigeria and the Southern Cameroons to administer justice in accordance with the great traditions of Your Majesty's Courts in the United Kingdom, but in so doing they have paid due respect and attention to the local laws and customs. In this task the Courts have received the willing help of the Law Officers, of the Magistrates, and of the members of the legal profession.

The Judges of the new High Courts will strive to deserve the confidence placed in them by Your Majesty and will apply themselves with renewed vigour and determination to the task of doing justice without fear or favour, affection or ill-will.

We beg to assure Your Majesty of our most loyal and devoted attachment to Your Person and Throne, and we humbly pray that Your Majesty's reign may be long and glorious and may continue to be blessed with the great happiness which Your Majesty's inspiring service to the Commonwealth so justly deserves.

Her Majesty was pleased to make the following Gracious Reply:

My Chief Justices:

I am most happy to be here today to inaugurate the new Judicial system in the Federation of Nigeria, and I thank you for your loyal addresses and for your welcome to my husband and myself.

I also thank the members of the whole Judiciary of Nigeria for their present, which will always remind me of their kindness on this notable occasion – the first, as you have pointed out, on which the Sovereign has inaugurated the Judicial system of a newly-formed Federation.

The Rule of Law is vital to the freedom and orderly progress of any society, and we take especial pride in the fact that, in our Commonwealth, the Rule of Law is maintained and that all men are equal in the eyes of the Law. For no society can be stable which is not based on this concept.

I am confident that the administration of Justice is safe in the hands of my Judges in Nigeria and I shall watch with continuing interest the working of the newly-constituted Courts.

*On the occasion of the Visit of Her Majesty to the Durbar at the Polo Ground, Kaduna, on Thursday,
2 February*

Gracious Address from Her Majesty

Representatives of the Northern Region:

I know that many of you have come a very long way to present the magnificent spectacle which I have just witnessed. The presence of so many of you from every part of this vast Region is a tribute to your loyal feelings, which I greatly value. Each contingent has contributed its part to the pageantry of this assembly, and in so doing has vividly portrayed the traditions and mode of life in each of the Provinces of the Northern Region. This great concourse of men and horses has brought home to me the respect which you have for your ancient traditions. I, too, respect those traditions and hope that in a rapidly changing world you will maintain all that is good in them.

You have greeted my husband and myself in a noble manner and we shall always cherish the memory of the spontaneous and happy welcome which you have given us. I sincerely thank you all.

On the occasion of the Visit of Her Majesty to the Children's Rally, Kaduna, on Friday, 3 February, the following Speech was made by Umaru Kawoji, a 15-year-old schoolboy who, with Yachella, the 13-year-old daughter of the Waziri of Bornu, presented Her Majesty with gifts of traditional robes for Prince Charles and Princess Anne

May it please Your Majesty to accept these presents for Prince Charles and Princess Anne from the children of the Northern Region.

On the occasion of Her Majesty's Visit to the Lugard Hall, Kaduna, on Friday, 3 February, the following Loyal and Humble Address was presented by the Premier of Northern Nigeria (Alhaji the Honourable Ahmadu, C.B.E., M.H.A., the Sardauna of Sokoto)

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

May it please Your Majesty:

We, the people of the Northern Region of Nigeria desire to greet Your Majesty with the expression of our unfailing allegiance to the Throne on this Your first visit with His Royal Highness to our Region of Northern Nigeria.

Your Majesty, it is my great fortune as Premier of the Northern Region to be given the privilege of expressing to Your Majesty the deep loyalty which we, the people of the Northern Region, feel towards You.

All of us have read of Your journeys to other lands and envied the people of those lands the opportunity that You had given them to show their loyalty. We have been earnestly hoping that You would find the time and opportunity to visit the largest and most populous single country in Africa. We are indeed grateful for the honour You have bestowed on us.

I am happy to tell Your Majesty and Your Royal Highness that everyone of us welcomed the news of your visit with joy and gladness. We have, in this Region, a tradition of loyalty to our Chiefs and Elders. We respect the pattern of our past. I can therefore assure Your Majesty that the demonstrations of loyalty which You have witnessed are both sincere and heartfelt.

We have good reason for our gladness. Not only have we been given the opportunity to greet Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, with all that those proud titles imply, but we are seeing the distinguished successor to a line of Kings and Queens who have contributed so much to the unity of the free world during times of stress and violence. But for Your example and that of Your distinguished forebears, freedom lovers might never have united to defend themselves against the onslaught of those who sought to dominate and enslave the world. We recall, only too vividly, the recent years of peril, when only the fact that we were one of many links in the chain of the great alliance, preserved us from a catastrophe. It is important to remember that there would be little talk today of constitutional advance and economic progress, but for the unity we then displayed. The contribution that the Royal West African Frontier Force was able to make to the final outcome of the struggle has indeed brought rich rewards.

Your Majesty will be aware that Your loyal subjects in this Region number eighteen million spread over 280,000 square miles. We are a Region of many peoples. Northern Nigeria, as it is today, came into being through the accident of history, the courage of our distinguished ancestors, and the foresight of Your public servants whom Your forebears sent to this country. We are still many peoples of many religions: a great number of us are Moslems; many are Christians; many follow other religions. We have yet to combine the various elements in our national life into a single whole. We have yet to find the unity that is essential, if racial and religious suspicions are to give way to kindness, tolerance and respect for each others way of life. We seek unity, but not uniformity. Your example has already greatly helped us. Your Christmas broadcasts, which we know are heard by peoples of many lands united in one thing – loyalty to the Crown – serve as a focus of our aspirations. We know You are highly esteemed by all who fear absolutism and believe that freedom can only be preserved by the cut and thrust of democratic politics. Yet,

You remain above politics – a symbol of unity to which all people are drawn when controversy and bitterness threaten to destroy the life of the community.

Your Majesty, Your distinguished Representative in this Region – our Governor – has shown us that a country cannot be governed by promises or flattery, but that unpopular decisions must be taken and their consequences accepted. I, and my colleagues, have learned that the art of modern government is a difficult one. It is important that we should realize this now that we are approaching a period of further constitutional change. We are a proud people, and our Chiefs and their servants have long been experienced in the administration of local government. It is, therefore, only natural that we should be determined, as many of the other peoples of Your Commonwealth have shown themselves to be, to assume more and more responsibility for the conduct of our affairs. We know by past performance that Your Ministers and Representative will place no unnecessary obstacle in our path – indeed, they will give all the aid and encouragement they can.

We humbly pray that Your Majesty's reign may be long and glorious and may continue to be blessed with the great happiness that Your Majesty's inspiring service to the Commonwealth so justly deserves.

**To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to make the following
Gracious Reply:**

Mr Premier:

It is with great pleasure that I have come here today to receive your address and to speak to you myself. I have been deeply moved by your expressions of loyalty. The welcome that my husband and I have received in the Northern Region has shown me that these feelings of loyalty and affection are shared by all sections of the population. Many of those who have come to greet us have had to travel long distances, some on horseback and some on foot. We wish them all to know how glad we are to see them and to thank them for the welcome they have given us. We wish also to send greetings to those in the Provinces who have not been able to come here and whom we shall not see elsewhere in this Region.

After little over fifty years of British administration your country is now approaching self-government. A transformation has taken place in these years and it has been achieved without undue strain and hardships. It is fitting that, in this Hall which bears his name, we should remember Lord Lugard and all those who have contributed to this truly remarkable record of progress: the public servants, who have impartially administered justice and, in close association with the Chiefs of the Region, laid the foundations of good government; and the missionaries, teachers and technicians who have brought the benefits of education and commercial prosperity to the Region. I wish also to pay my tribute to the part played by the people of this Region and of the whole of Nigeria in two World Wars. We shall not forget the large contingents of fighting men sent from the Northern Region, particularly to the campaigns in Abyssinia and Burma.

Much still remains to be done. The struggle against ignorance, disease and poverty will require for years your industry and your application. I have learnt with great pleasure of the manner in which Ministers, Native Authorities and all concerned are tackling these problems. I am struck by the evident determination of the people of the Northern Region to educate their

children. Without this the economic development so necessary for the progress of the country cannot be achieved. I am pleased to hear of the steps you have already taken and the future plans you have made for this.

The people of the Northern Region vary in character, in background and in religion. Whatever the differences in religious beliefs, I would ask you to remember that those beliefs form the background of national standards of integrity and morality. I am sure that the Government of the Northern Region will always allow men freedom to worship God in the way that the conscience of each dictates. Tolerance is necessary not only in religious matters but also towards those whose views and traditions differ. It is by this spirit of understanding that the people of varied races and tribes will be brought together.

I assure you all of my deep interest in your welfare and in your progress which I shall continue to watch closely. May the blessing of God rest on this country and its people.

On the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to the Eastern House of Assembly, Enugu, on Tuesday, 7 February, the following Humble Address was delivered by the Premier of Eastern Nigeria (Dr the Honourable Nnamdi Azikiwe, M.H.A.)

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

THE MOST HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE PREMIER, MINISTERS OF STATE, MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, AND THE PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN REGION OF NIGERIA

May it please Your Majesty:

In the name of the Government of the Eastern Region, and on behalf of more than seven and a half million British subjects and protected persons, I welcome Your Majesty to this part of tropical Africa with its pleasant sunshine and exotic scenery.

Our British connection goes back to the halcyon days of the nineteenth century when our venerated forefathers concluded treaties of amity, peace and commerce with Your Majesty's illustrious forebear, Queen Victoria. By virtue of these ties of friendship, we welcomed British protection and have enjoyed a prolonged period of peaceful existence and mutual development.

Thirty years ago, Your Majesty's Royal Uncle, who was then Prince of Wales, paid an historic visit to this country. He impressed our people with the sincerity of British aims and objectives in West Africa. Since then, we have made such rapid progress spiritually and materially that we are now actively engaged in adapting our political institutions to the building of a modern State which is based on British traditions of parliamentary government and representative democracy.

I can assure Your Majesty that the people of the Eastern Region appreciate your presence in our country today, because it is a noble gesture which is destined to draw the communities of Nigeria and the United Kingdom closer in comradeship under the British flag. We pledge our loyalty to Your Majesty's sovereign person and to the great ideal of human brotherhood and freedom so cherished by British subjects and protected persons all over the world, and which distinguishes in broad relief the British Commonwealth of Nations from others.

Of these we are certain: our loyalty is transparent and unalloyed; our love of freedom and justice is innate and not superficial. Our record in two World Wars, when we fought side by side with our British comrades, is proof which is positive and conclusive.

That is the spirit with which we welcome Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to Eastern Nigeria. We wish you a pleasant stay among us in this tropical paradise. We hope that our sunny climate will be kind to you. We pray that God Almighty, the giver of life and all the good things of the earth, will bless you and grant you wisdom.

Above all, Your Majesty will have observed that we are seriously engaged in the task of marching forward towards greater political responsibility. We trust that Your Majesty will not forget this part of the world where, in spite of honest differences of opinion, without rancour, without violence, British rule and ideals have transformed diverse communities from the paths of strife and backwardness to the highroads of peace and progress. Indeed, the races and communities of Nigeria have demonstrated good sense and have proudly embarked on a great crusade to make this country a laboratory of human relations, as part and parcel of this great multi-racial Commonwealth.

**To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following
Gracious Reply:**

I thank you, Mr Premier, for the loyal Address which you have presented on behalf of My people of the Eastern Region of Nigeria. I have been deeply moved by the sincerity and conviction with which you have expressed their loyal sentiments, and My husband and I will long remember the spontaneous demonstrations of affection with which we have been received.

I heard with great pleasure your reference to Queen Victoria in whose reign was forged the link between the people of Nigeria and the Throne. I pray that under God, this happy association will long continue, and that the bonds of friendship and goodwill which join Nigeria and Britain will retain their strength undiminished. The history of the last half century has clearly shown how impressive is the progress which can be achieved by willing co-operation between My people in Nigeria and their friends in Britain and it is My confident hope that together they will go forward to a still more happy future.

My husband and I are greatly pleased to have this opportunity of meeting, for the first time in their homeland, so many of the people of Eastern Nigeria. We have long looked forward to this visit for it is only by meeting people in their own homes that it is possible to know them and to understand their difficulties and aspirations. Our one regret is that we cannot stay longer and that it is possible for us to visit only Enugu, Calabar and Port Harcourt. It would have afforded us keen satisfaction to have been able to include your other towns in our tour and, in the villages and countryside, to have seen something of the day to day life of My people in this Region.

My husband joins with Me in wishing you all happiness and prosperity in the years to come.

On the occasion of Her Visit to Calabar on Wednesday, 8 February, the following address was presented to Her Majesty

AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO HER MAJESTY ELIZABETH THE SECOND, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND OF HER OTHER REALMS AND TERRITORIES, QUEEN, HEAD OF THE COMMONWEALTH, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH

May it please Your Majesty:

We, the people representing the African, European and Asiatic communities in the Calabar Province have exceeding great joy this day in being privileged to welcome Your Majesty the Queen and Your Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to our homeland, and to reaffirm the loyalty of the entire populace of the Province to the British Crown.

We are particularly happy that in this glorious year it has pleased Your Majesty to honour the Calabar Province as our Royal Guests. This eighth day of February in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-six will go down in the history of the African peoples as the occasion of the First State Visit of the British Monarch to the Calabar Province in the Eastern Region of Nigeria.

The late Queen Victoria, the great ancestress of Your Majesty, has long been held in affectionate memory by us and a sense of sweet relationship has ever existed between the people of the Calabar Province and the British Crown.

The work of the British saints and pioneers, who have freely offered their lives in service for Africa and for African people, has done much to strengthen the tie between this land and Your Majesty's Domain in Britain, and has left us an immense debt of gratitude to pay in love and in loyalty. One such, Your Majesty, is Miss Mary Mitchell Slessor, the White Queen of Okoyong, who laboured and died for Africans in the Calabar Province, thus bringing 'Calabar' into the pages of story books which Your Majesty will doubtless have read in her girlhood. The spiritual and social leadership of such people has done much to liberate us from ignorance and superstition.

We, therefore, desire to place on record, Your Majesty, the deep sense of gratitude of the people of the Calabar Province for the golden opportunity afforded us to meet the persons of Our Most Gracious Queen Elizabeth II and Her husband and to renew our pledge of love and loyalty to the British Crown.

LONG LIVE THE QUEEN!

To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following Gracious Reply:

I thank you for your loyal Address and for the splendid welcome which My husband and I have received here today.

We are both very pleased to be able to come to Calabar, a town whose history is associated with My great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, and which occupies an important place in the history of West Africa. It is just over a hundred years since the first treaty was made between Calabar and the British Crown.

I know that the example of devoted service set by those early missionaries has been and will be followed by others amongst you. You boys and girls, who are present here today, must carry on this work when your turn comes. You must see to it that when your children come to read in their history books about your lifetimes they will have nothing of which to be ashamed and much of which they can be proud.

On the occasion of Her Visit to Port Harcourt on Wednesday, 8 February, the following Address was presented to Her Majesty

AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO HER MAJESTY ELIZABETH THE SECOND, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND OF HER OTHER REALMS AND TERRITORIES, QUEEN, HEAD OF THE COMMONWEALTH, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH

May it please Your Majesty:

On behalf of Port Harcourt Municipality and the people of the many clans, tribes and nationalities in the Rivers Province, I very respectfully present to Your Most Gracious Majesty this humble Address of Welcome.

It is a great honour and a source of immense jubilation to nearly half a million people in this Province to welcome Your Majesty, and also Your husband, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

Port Harcourt was founded in the year Your Majesty's illustrious grandfather ascended the throne. It is now the second greatest port of Nigeria and the second town in Nigeria to attain the status of a Municipality. In this short space of time stupendous progress has been made in the fields of Christianity, Education, Commerce and Social Service.

We deeply appreciate the statesmanship of the British people, which has borne fruit in the cordial relations which have existed between Nigeria and Great Britain for the past fifty years and in the vast developments which have taken place in our country. This record of achievement is one of which both we and the British people can be heartily proud. We pray that the harmonious relationship between the peoples of Great Britain and Nigeria will continue.

Your Majesty will see in the manner of our celebrations the unsophisticated way of our lives. But though we are simple folk, we offer You a great warmth of welcome and sincere love and good wishes. The memory of Your visit will long be treasured and I am proud and honoured to present to You this Address as a token of appreciation of the opportunity given to the people of Port Harcourt and the Rivers Province to welcome You in our midst.

**To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following
Gracious Reply:**

I thank you, Mr Mayor, for this loyal Address and the peoples of the Rivers Province for the great warmth and friendliness of the welcome which My husband and I have received.

We are both glad to have the opportunity of visiting this port and of meeting the peoples of the Province who have come by land and water to be present here today.

We have been greatly interested in all that We have seen and heard and have been particularly impressed to learn of the progress which you have made in recent years. I am sure that you will continue to meet with enterprise and vigour the problems that will face you in the years to come.

My husband joins with Me in wishing you prosperity and success.

On the occasion of a Reception for Members of the House of Assembly of the Southern Cameroons at Government House, Lagos, on Friday, 10 February, the following Humble Address was presented by Dr the Honourable E. M. L. Enderley, O.B.E., M.H.A.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

THE MOST HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FROM THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS UNDER UNITED KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION

May it please Your Majesty:

We, the elected representatives of the Trust Territory of the Southern Cameroons, on behalf of the peoples of the Southern Cameroons under United Kingdom Administration, are very thankful for the opportunity afforded us to meet Your Majesty on this your first historic visit to the Federation of Nigeria of which the Trust Territory forms a part. Our people would have appreciated it as a signal honour to welcome Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in their own humble surroundings. They have learnt with very deep regret that physical difficulties have rendered a visit to the Trust Territory impossible.

Our association with the British people dates from the middle of the nineteenth century when British Baptist Missionaries established themselves in the Southern part of the Trust Territory. Their main settlement at Ambus Bay was named after Your Majesty's illustrious great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria of blessed memory. Although this association was cut short in 1884 when the German Government took the territory under its protection, the Christian influence then diffused by these Missionaries has been of lasting benefit to our people.

As Your Majesty is aware, our territory was given great opportunities to administer its own internal affairs by the Nigerian Constitutional Conferences of 1953-4. It is a matter for some pride to us to be able to record that this territory has made considerable constitutional progress during the past fourteen months: a lot more remains to be done, and our people are determined to prove equal to the initial difficulties of building up our economy. We are deeply appreciative of Your Majesty's Government's early sympathy towards our problems, particularly the recent munificent grant made available to us under the Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. We cherish the ardent hope that Your Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will continue to extend to us the same sympathy and understanding in the future.

We beg to assure Your Majesty of our most loyal and devoted attachment to Your Person and Throne, and it is our earnest and constant prayer that God may bless Your Majesty with health and wisdom and that you may reign long and happily over Your Peoples.

**To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to make the following
Gracious Reply:**

I thank you, Honourable Members of the Southern Cameroons House of Assembly, for the loyal greetings which you have travelled so far to bring to me today. My husband and I would greatly have preferred to meet you in your own House and in your own country, and it was with

the keenest regret that we found that it was not possible to do so. So it gives us particular pleasure to see so many of you here today and I hope you will assure all those whom you represent that the Trust Territory has as close a place in my thoughts and affection as any of the other parts of the Federation.

I have heard with satisfaction of the constitutional advances which you are making. My husband and I are impressed to hear you speak today with such confidence of the determination of your people to prove equal to their task, and we believe that, in this spirit, the continued progress of the Southern Cameroons is certain.

I wish to assure you, Honourable Members, and through you all the people of the Southern Cameroons, of the continuing interest which my Government in the United Kingdom has in the welfare of your country. My husband joins me in thanking you for the expression of affection and loyalty which you have brought to us today and in wishing you and all who live in the Territory a prosperous and happy future.

On the occasion of the Visit of Her Majesty to Western House of Assembly, Ibadan, on Saturday, 11 February, the following Address of Welcome was presented by the Premier of Western Nigeria (the Honourable Chief Obafemi Awolowo, M.H.A.)

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

May it please Your Majesty:

It is with unbounded joy and the warmest affection that we welcome Your Majesty into our midst today in this the capital city of our Region.

By this epoch-making visit, Your Majesty has not only done us a rare honour, but has also demonstrated beyond the slightest shadow of doubt, that in your esteem and devotion all your subjects – whatever their creed, colour, clime, or race – are equal.

Today, the British Monarchy is the most stable, and the most genuinely and spontaneously beloved of all the monarchies which have survived the vicissitudes of time.

The contributions made by successive English and British Sovereigns have had the effect of making the Throne which, by the Grace of God, Your Majesty now occupies the embodiment of the noblest ideals of the citizens of all the territories under your dominion. In this exalted throne all the finest yearnings of your peoples appear consummated and fulfilled. It is because of all these that the British Throne is so visibly invested with a halo of veneration, and surpassing love and loyalty which no reasoning mortal can fail to acknowledge.

The reigns of two Queens had witnessed some of the most important and memorable epochs in the history of Britain and of the British Empire. During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, the long-drawn struggle between England and Spain was brought to a head, and England achieved maritime supremacy. This achievement led to another. The foundation of what is now known as the British Commonwealth of Nations was firmly laid by the heroic exploits of the intrepid explorers of those days.

If the foundation of the British Commonwealth was laid during the reign of Elizabeth I, the superstructure was completed during the palmy regime of Queen Victoria. During this reign Britain became the greatest world power in every sense of the word: she was the wealthiest of all the nations; her industrial undertakings were without compare; the unique British way of life – parliamentary democracy, enthronement of law and order, religious tolerance and intellectual and cultural freedom, all of which are being practised and emulated in the British Commonwealth and Colonial Territories today – came into its full bloom and maturity.

Because of the close affinity of these two monarchs with Your Majesty, it is not unnatural to hope that Your reign will usher in for the British Commonwealth of Nations (which in its widest connotation includes ourselves) more glorious events and greater achievements than have hitherto been known and chronicled.

In fact, the morning has already begun to show the day. On the eve of your coronation, Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, was conquered by a dogged team led by one of Your Majesty's adventurous and daring subjects. That was symbolic. It symbolizes for us the hope and trust that during Your reign, which promises to be long and illustrious, any difficulty or problem, however tough, that may confront Britain and the Commonwealth will be surmounted and solved.

Of special significance to us in Nigeria are the events which have taken place in our country since your accession. It is since your accession that the Governor of the Western Region appointed two women as Special Members of our House of Assembly – the first time ever that a woman has sat in any Legislature in Nigeria. Towards the close of 1955 the women of this Region were given political franchise and can vote and be voted for at elections.

The special significance of Your reign to us in Western Nigeria is not, however, confined to the emancipation of women. Within the past four years tremendous progress has been made, in the social and political spheres of this Region, such as was not attempted much less accomplished within fifty years previously. What is more, this year of Your Majesty's visit is the one in which we confidently hope to attain to self-government in this Region.

Yet another significance which Your reign has for us in Nigeria, and for all colonial territories for that matter, is this. Whilst it is true to say that there was an element of force in the cohesive factors which held the Empire together in the days before Your reign, today it is the voluntary will of the colonial peoples, avowing common allegiance to the Throne of Britain, that makes them adhere to this large family of nations. Declarations of policy are now being conscientiously translated into realities. The barriers of race, colour, and inequality of social and civic status are being vigorously demolished with equal fervour and energy by all the races of the Empire. And by this and similar visits to other parts of British Dependencies, Your Majesty has shown that you are right in the vanguard of a new era – the era of Elizabeth II, in which all the citizens of the Empire, whatever their race and colour, will live as brothers and sisters and enjoy full equality as to their rights and liberty.

Nigeria is a British creation. Since some forty years ago, British Administrators in Nigeria and Nigerian public men have been striving hard to transmute what was at first a geographical expression into a national entity. In this noble but difficult task of transmutation, various constitutional experiments have been tried with different results. It is gratifying, however, to record that the net outcome of these experiments is that Nigeria and Britain have enjoyed cordial relations together, and that at last we have succeeded in devising a constitutional formula which eminently suits the peculiar circumstances of Nigeria, and which if maintained in its fundamentals is sure to keep together as one national unit the diverse races of this comparatively vast territory.

For the past thirteen days, Your Majesty has been in Nigeria. From reports, Your Majesty's subjects in Nigeria have vied with one another to demonstrate their affection and loyalty to your Person and Throne. With great respect and modesty, we dare to express the belief that we in this Region have by our performances thus far succeeded in being in the front line with others in this historic, felicitous and ennobling race.

But avowal of loyalty in this gay and social manner is not enough. We must take this opportunity, in Your Majesty's gracious presence, to proclaim our allegiance and fealty in respect of matters which are more serious and of vital interest to Your Majesty and to the peoples who inhabit the far-flung territories under your dominion. We believe that our own security and orderly progress, and world peace in general, depend very largely on the solidarity and the inviolability of the British Commonwealth of Nations. In this connection, we recognize that the symbol and the only bond of British Empire solidarity is the British Crown; and accordingly we pledge ourselves, God being our Helper, to do everything in our power to uphold and preserve the dignity, power, and privileges of the British Throne. We realize that the happiness, prosperity and general well-being of your subjects are matters of intimate concern to Your Majesty. To this end, we will unceasingly promote, in a most constructive and constitutional manner, the enjoyment of equality of rights and liberty by all the citizens of the Empire, and we will dedicate our talents and bend our whole energy towards the federal union, and the happiness and prosperity, of all the peoples of Nigeria.

On behalf of the Government, the Obas, Chiefs and the entire people of this Region, I wholeheartedly wish Your Majesty and His Royal Highness a most pleasant stay in our midst.

**To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to make the following
Gracious Reply:**

I thank you, Mr Premier, and the Obas, Chiefs and people of the Western Region for their loyalty and affection, to which you have given expression in your Address. My husband and I have been greatly touched by the spontaneous and friendly welcome which you have given us on this, our first visit to the capital of the Region.

We have, during the last fortnight, been able to see something of the immense size and varied resources of this great country. In the course of the next few days we are looking forward to meeting many of the Obas and people of this Region and to seeing and learning something of their way of life.

I have followed with great interest the way in which my peoples in Nigeria are steadily attaining, by constitutional means, the management of their own affairs. I was glad to have your assurance that in achieving this aim it is your intention to work in loyal co-operation with the Federal Government.

This Hall has been the meeting place of the Regional Legislature during the formative period of its existence. It is my fervent hope that your new Parliament Buildings will be a home of democratic parliamentary government, with its vigilant regard for the liberty of the individual and of the rights of minorities.

Great progress is being made in Western Nigeria. Your achievements in the field of education and health are a striking example of the vigorous manner in which the Government is discharging its new responsibilities. To support new social services, it is necessary to create wealth. I am encouraged therefore to know that the economic development of the Region is in the forefront of your minds.

I am proud that, in partnership with their Nigerian colleagues in the Civil Service, members of my Overseas Service are continuing steadily to play their allotted part in the orderly progress of the Region.

My husband joins me in congratulating the people of the Region on their achievement so far and in wishing them all prosperity and good fortune in the years that lie ahead.

*On the occasion of the Visit of Her Majesty to the Youth Rally at the Racecourse, Ibadan, on Monday,
13 February*

Gracious Address by Her Majesty the Queen

My husband and I are very happy to be here today and to see this great gathering from all the Provinces of Western Nigeria. It is good to see so many young people in whose hands the future prosperity and development of this country will lie.

It is the aim of this Region that every boy and girl should be taught to read and write so that they should learn to be good citizens with a sense of responsibility towards their village, their province and their country. To you children and to your teachers, I want to express my hope and trust that you will use the opportunities which are now open to you, not for selfish ends, but for the benefit and welfare of your fellow men and women.

You have examples of service before you in this Rally. My husband and I welcome the presence here of ex-servicemen and wish to assure them that their devotion and sacrifices have not been in vain. We are also glad to see so many representatives of voluntary organizations. However much a government can do, there is always need – and scope – for men and women prepared to give their time and labour freely in good causes. May their work prosper and give them the enduring satisfaction that derives from service to others.

I pray that, under God's guidance, success may crown the efforts being made to build the future of this great country, Nigeria, on sure foundations.

On the occasion of the Visit of Her Majesty to the University College, Ibadan, on Tuesday, 14 February

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE VISITOR OF THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, IBADAN
(HIS EXCELLENCY, SIR JAMES WILSON ROBERTSON, G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G., K.B.E., GOVERNOR-GENERAL
OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA)

May it please Your Majesty:

On behalf of all members of the University College, Ibadan, I have the honour to offer to Your Majesty and to His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, our most loyal welcome and to express our deep and sincere appreciation of Your gracious presence today.

In November 1948 the then Secretary of State for the Colonies turned the first turf on this spacious site, which then consisted of forest and wilderness interspersed with small farms and settlements. It is a measure of the achievement of the seven intervening years that an established and well-staffed University College, housed in splendid buildings, now serves the needs of over five hundred resident students and affords facilities for research and instruction in the four Faculties of Arts, Science, Agriculture and Medicine.

We recall with gratitude that the College owes its origin very largely to the far-sighted wisdom of those in the United Kingdom who, in the darkest days of the late War, began to plan for the development of higher education in the oversea dependencies of the Crown.

Although the College is established, it is of course far from being fully grown. Its further development is a matter of deep interest not only to the College community itself but to the people of the Federation of Nigeria. We are glad that on Your way to the College Your Majesty has been able to visit two other institutions which, along with this College, constitute parts of the developing pattern of higher education in Nigeria.

Your Majesty's gracious presence on this occasion is a source of the utmost encouragement to us all in the many tasks which lie ahead.

**To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to make the following
Gracious Reply:**

I thank you, Mr Visitor, and the members of the University College of Ibadan for your loyal Address and for the kind welcome you have given Me and My husband.

It was in My Father's reign and at a most anxious time for the Commonwealth that plans were made for the oversea development of higher education. The foresight of those responsible for them has already been amply rewarded by the achievement here, considerable in itself, but even richer in promise.

It has been a pleasure to Me and My husband to visit on Our way here two other institutions, even younger than this College, which will serve purposes complementary to it. I should be glad if My visits to the University College Hospital and the Ibadan Branch of the Nigerian College of Arts, Science and Technology, are commemorated by My name being given to the principal roads in their precincts in the manner in which they have requested. I have also readily agreed that the new Hall of Residence for Women now being built in this College should, when completed, be known as Queen Elizabeth Hall.

My husband joins Me in wishing the College and all who work here success in their ever-increasing tasks. In particular, We give our special greetings to the students of the College, whose future part in the service of Nigeria will be of such great importance.

From Government House, Lagos, on Wednesday, 15 February

Farewell Broadcast by Her Majesty

The time has come when I must say 'Goodbye'. For nearly three weeks my husband and I have travelled in your country and seen something of the immense variety of scenery, of people and of customs which is Nigeria. Everywhere we have received a most warm-hearted welcome which has given us very great pleasure. We shall always remember with thanks your kindness and your hospitality. The peoples of Nigeria have welcomed me with one voice and I hope that this may help you to feel a greater unity among yourselves.

I realize that this visit has meant a great deal of extra work for many people and I want to express my appreciation to all those who have had a part in making the arrangements. Public servants and voluntary organizations, the Army and the Police, the Railway and Airways Corporations, all have my personal thanks for their untiring efforts and for the thoughtfulness and consideration with which they have gone about their duties.

No one visiting Nigeria in these stirring times can fail to notice the enthusiastic activity of all sections of the community. This universal demand for development is most impressive. Every period of great change anywhere in the world has always been attended by difficulties – sometimes by turbulence, but I hope that the partnership of Nigerians and British here will ensure many years of smooth progress.

Material progress by itself is not enough. It is just as important that the conduct of our everyday life, in business, in industry, in the Public service and in Government should come even closer to the ideals of honesty, integrity and justice. Unless we maintain such standards, the benefits of science and technology cannot be enjoyed.

And now I want to say a special word to the members of my Oversea Civil Service who are serving in Nigeria. I know that in these changing times some of you are facing special problems and anxieties. But you still have a vital part to play in the development of this great country. I have greatly admired the work you are doing and the courage and unselfish devotion you bring to it. In serving my peoples in Nigeria, you are truly serving me, and I shall take a close interest in your future welfare.

On the eve of our departure I would like to leave to all Nigerians a reminder of this visit, which has been a great experience to us and I believe also to you. I have, therefore, decided that from now on the Nigeria Regiment is to be called The Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment. In this way I can also pay my tribute to the gallantry and loyalty of the people of the whole Federation who have served the Crown and their country so faithfully in peace and in war.

I pray that for you and for your children the future may hold peace, progress and prosperity.





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