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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

THE following letter written by His Majesty the King to his people on the occasion of Their Majesties' Coronation is published for general information.

By His Excellency's command.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, August 8, 1902. R. W. IEVERS, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Buckingham Palace, London, August 8, 1902.

TO MY PEOPLE.

On the eve of my Coronation, an event which I look upon as one of the most solemn and important in my life. I am anxious to express to my people at home, and in the Colonies and in India, my heartfeltappreciation of the deep sympathy which they have manifested to wards me during the time that my life was in such imminent danger. The postponement of the ceremony owing to my illness caused, I fear, much inconvenience and trouble to those who intended to celebrate it; but their disappointment was borne by them with admirable patience and temper. The prayers of my people for my recovery were heard, and I now offer my deepest gratitude to Divine Providence for having preserved my life and given me strength to perform the important duties which devolve upon me as the Sovereign of this great Empire.

EDWARD, R. & I.