

Lommonwealth of Australia Hazette

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Department of External Affairs, Melbourne, 9th August, 1902.

Excellency the Acting Governor-General directs that it be notified, for general information, that he has received from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies the following telegram.—

"7th August. The following is the text of a letter which His Majesty the King has written to His people, on the occasion of their Majesties' Coronation:—

"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 heartfelt appreciation of the deep sympathy which they have manifested towards 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 up My deepest gratitude to Divine Providence for having preserved My life and given Me strength to fulfil the important duties which devolve upon Me as The Sovereign of this Great Empire.

"(Signed) EDWARD R. AND I.,

"Buckingham Palace, 8th August, 1902."

By His Excellency's Command,

ALFRED DEAKIN.

