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SCOTTISH OFFICE, WHITEHALL,

June 2, 1904.

THE following Address of the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland convened in General Assembly, having been transmitted by His Grace the Lord High Commissioner to the Right Honourable Andrew Graham Murray, K.C., His Majesty's Secretary for Scotland, has been by him laid before the King, who was pleased to receive the same very graciously :—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY,

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—

We, Your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland, convened in General Assembly, have received with feelings of deepest gratitude Your Majesty's most gracious Letter conveyed to us by His Grace the Lord High Commissioner.

The interest and confidence which Your Majesty has expressed in our deliberations and work will be a strong incentive to us to labour assiduously for the advancement of true religion, and for the furtherance of the moral welfare of the people of Your Kingdom of Scotland.

The renewal of Your Majesty's assurance that it is Your firm purpose to continue Your Royal countenance and support to the Church of Scotland, and to confirm it in the enjoyment of all

its rights and privileges as by law established, has been received with much satisfaction.

We rejoice that the Almighty has given You such health and strength as to permit You to visit not only different parts of Your own dominions but also several Continental Countries, thereby enabling Your Majesty to further the cause of peace and good-will among the nations of the world.

We beg to express our gratitude for Your Majesty's munificent gift of two thousand pounds, which it will be our endeavour to administer for the promotion of the purposes for which it has been bestowed. It will be used for the benefit of the Highlands of Scotland, Your residence in which at intervals gives great gratification to all classes of Your subjects in Scotland.

Your Majesty's appointment of the Right Honourable the Earl of Leven and Melville as Lord High Commissioner has been peculiarly acceptable to the General Assembly, all the more so that His Grace's ancestors have represented the Sovereign at the Meetings of the Supreme Court of the Church of Scotland more frequently than the representatives of any other family, and that the Members of successive General Assemblies have personally enjoyed his great courtesy and kindness.

We sincerely and fervently hope and pray that He by whom kings reign, and princes decree