



# Edinburgh Gazette.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

FROM TUESDAY, MAY 30, TO FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1820.

WHITEHALL—MAY 25, 1820.

The following Addresses of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland having been transmitted by George Earl of Morton, Knight of the Most Ancient Order of the Thistle, his Majesty's Commissioner, to the Right Honourable Viscount Sidmouth, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, have been by him presented to the King, which addresses his Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously:

*May it please your Majesty,*

The gracious letter which your Majesty has been pleased to address to this Assembly has been received by us with all due honour and respect.

Maintaining that unshaken adherence to the succession of the British Crown in your Majesty's illustrious house, and that regard to the interests of the Protestant Faith, which your Majesty vouchsafes to approve in former Assemblies, we rejoice that our meeting is countenanced by your royal authority; we receive with entire confidence and gratitude the renewed assurance of your Majesty's fixed purpose and unalterable resolution to continue to our National Church the same support with which it hath been honoured by your Royal Ancestors, and to maintain it in the full enjoyment of all its rights and privileges as by law established: the paternal kindness which our Church has already experienced from your Majesty, while administering the government in the name and on the behalf of your revered and beloved father, is the surest pledge to us of the advantages which we hope to enjoy under your Majesty's reign.

For securing the happiness of that reign, and for furthering the true interest of the Church whose Ministers we are, we shall eagerly avail ourselves of all the means which we can command; we shall inculcate on our flocks the duty of subordination, and of obedience to lawful magistrates, and shall anxiously and affectionately warn them how contrary alike to the laws of God and of Man, are those treasonable attempts against our happy constitution, by which some parts of this favoured Island have been recently disgraced: while your Majesty, through the civil magistrate, administers justice in mercy for the sup-

pression of these disorders, it shall be our earnest endeavour to counteract them, by enforcing their utter inconsistency with the precepts of the gospel.

The re-appointment of the Earl of Morton to represent your royal person in this assembly, is rendered most acceptable to us by the experience which we have had of his ability for the discharge of that important trust, and of his affectionate concern for the welfare of our Church; we humbly hope that the Lord High Commissioner will be able to make a favourable report to your Majesty of the spirit by which our deliberations are guided.

We receive with gratitude, and shall employ with fidelity and zeal, your Majesty's royal donation of two thousand pounds for the promotion of religious knowledge in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

That Almighty God, by whom Kings reign, may abundantly bless your Majesty, that he may make your reign long and prosperous, and may at the last bestow upon your Majesty a crown of glory, are the prayers of, may it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of this General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed, in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment, by

THOMAS MACRIGNIGHT, Moderator.  
Edinburgh, May 20, 1820.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

WE, your Majesty's most faithful and affectionate subjects, the Ministers and Elders met in the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, while we participate cordially in the expressions of duty and respect, which have been tendered to your Majesty by the commission of last Assembly, are eager to embrace this opportunity of our first meeting to offer our condolence to your Majesty on the lamented death of our late beloved Monarch, to congratulate your Majesty on your auspicious accession to the throne of your ancestors, and to express our attachment and loyalty to your Majesty's person and government.

In reviewing the reign of our late venerable sovereign, we delight to dwell on the pre-eminent

excellence of his character. We offer our fervent thanks to Heaven for the manifold blessings which we enjoyed under his beneficent sway, and feel the remembrance of his virtues an additional tie of affection and duty to the prince who now inherits his throne.

In the solemn constitutional pledge which your Majesty has so early given of maintaining our rights and privileges, and the assurance of your royal countenance and protection to our Church, which your Majesty has been graciously pleased to renew repeatedly to its representatives, we recognise the kind and paternal spirit of that illustrious house which has been so long the ornament and safeguard of our country, and find encouragement to anticipate confidently every benefit which our national establishment can derive from the reign of a patriotic Monarch.

We sympathize deeply in the universal grief which has been excited by the death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, immediately preceding the demise of his revered father; and we beg leave to offer to your Majesty the tribute of our heartfelt condolence on that mournful event. Our prayer is, that under every deprivation your Majesty and all the royal family may be visited with the consolations of Heaven, and supported by the assured hope of that blessed immortality, in which separation and sorrow shall be unknown.

The scenes of tumult, disorder, and outrage, by which the commencement of your Majesty's reign has been disturbed, have affected us with deep mortification and regret. Those insidious arts, which by disseminating impiety, discontent, and treason, have undermined the faith of the ignorant, aggravated the sufferings of the poor, and disturbed the peace of society in various parts of the kingdom, are regarded by us with unmixed abhorrence. We trust, in the blessing of the Most High, on your Majesty's wise and vigorous councils for repressing every instance of conspiracy, rebellion, and blasphemy, and guarding against their recurrence. We observe with awe and affliction, the working of that spirit of impiety and unbelief, which spurning the authority of the Almighty, and denying the truths of the gospel, has led to insubordination, to the deliberate contrivance and perpetration of most atrocious