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FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1856.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace,
May 2, 1856.

A CHAPTER of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle having been summoned for this day, the following Knights Brethren, in their mantles and collars, assembled in the Palace; viz. :—

The Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Rosebery, the Duke of Montrose, the Earl of Elgin, the Earl of Eglinton, the Duke of Atholl, and Lord Panmure, attended by the undermentioned Officers of the Order, in their mantles, and wearing their chains and badges; viz. :—Sir John-Stewart Richardson, Bart., Secretary of the Order, and Frederic-Peel Round, Esq. Gentleman Usher of the Green Rod.

At three o'clock the Knights Brethren were called over by the Secretary, when (Her Majesty and His Royal Highness the Prince Albert having passed into the Throne Room,) they proceeded, with the Officers of the Order, into the presence of the Sovereign.

The Queen being seated in the Chair of State, and His Royal Highness the Prince Albert at the table on the right hand of Her Majesty, the Sovereign was pleased to command the other Knights Brethren to take their seats at the table, according to their seniority in the Order, the Officers of the Order standing in their places at the bottom of the table.

The Sovereign was then pleased to signify Her royal pleasure touching the election of a Knight unto the Order; whereupon the Knights Brethren proceeded to the election, and the suffrages having been collected by the Secretary (commencing with the junior Knight), were by him, kneeling, presented to the Sovereign, who was pleased to declare that the Most Noble George-Douglas, Duke of Argyll, had been duly elected a Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle.

Then, by command of the Sovereign, the Duke of Argyll was received at the door of the Chapter-room by the Duke of Atholl and Lord Panmure, the two junior Knights Brethren, and conducted between them to Her Majesty, preceded by the Secretary (bearing on a velvet cushion the Ensigns of the Order), and by the Gentleman Usher of the Green Rod.

The Sword of State being thereupon delivered to the Sovereign by His Royal Highness the Prince Albert, the senior Knight, the Duke of Argyll, kneeling near the Queen, was knighted therewith; after which his Grace had the honour to kiss Her Majesty's hand; the Duke rising, the oath was administered to his Grace by the Secretary.

The Duke of Argyll then, again kneeling, and the Secretary, on his knee, presenting to Her Majesty the ribband and jewel of the Order, the Queen was graciously pleased to place the same over the Duke's left shoulder.

His Grace, having again kissed the Sovereign's hand, and after receiving the congratulations of the Knights Brethren, retired.

The Chapter being ended, the Knights Brethren were, by command of Her Majesty, again called over by the Secretary, and, with the Officers of the Order, retired from the presence of the Sovereign with the usual reverences.

WHITEHALL, May 3, 1856.

The Queen has been pleased to constitute and appoint the Right Honourable Robert Montgomery, Lord Belhaven, to be Her Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, May 3, 1856.

This day had audience of Her Majesty :—
The Baron de Brunnow, on a Special Mission from the Emperor of all the Russias, to deliver a letter from His Imperial Majesty notifying His accession to the Throne :

To which he was introduced by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and conducted by Major-General the Honourable Sir Edward Cust, K.C.H., Her Majesty's Master of the Ceremonies.

WAR-DEPARTMENT, May 3, 1856.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Major-Generals Henry William Barnard, C.B., and Henry Rokeby, to be Ordinary Members of the Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

