

Majesty's Arms in suppressing rebellion throughout that wide region of your Majesty's dominions, and on the restoration of peace under circumstances which have so manifestly called for hearty thanksgiving to Almighty God.

It is our joy that we are warranted to hope that both India and China, through the changes which have recently occurred in our relations to those Continents, have now been opened up, as they never were before, to the extensive introduction of "the glorious Gospel of the grace of God."

We watch with deep anxiety the progress of that war which the Almighty, in His sovereign providence, has permitted to break forth on the Continent of Europe; and while acknowledging with grateful and adoring hearts the Lord's mercy to this Nation in so often, in former conflicts, keeping the battle from our gates, we rejoice to learn the determination of your Majesty, in full accordance with the will and wishes of your people, to maintain a strict neutrality between the Contending Powers; and we doubt not that your Majesty, while thus abstaining from all armed intervention, will seize every opportunity of employing the whole influence and moral power of this Country for the purpose of restoring peace to Europe, and at the same time securing the blessings of freedom of conscience to those who, in Italy, have so long groaned under civil oppression and ecclesiastical tyranny.

That your Majesty's precious life may be long spared; that spiritual and eternal blessings may richly endow you; and that, when you have finished your course on earth, you may receive that crown which the Lord the Righteous Judge alone can give, is the earnest and united prayer of,

May it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most dutiful, most obedient, and most loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Free Church of Scotland, in General Assembly convened.

Signed in name, and by appointment of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, at Edinburgh, the 23d day of May 1859 years, by

WM. CUNNINGHAM, D.D., Moderator.

DUBLIN CASTLE, May 24, 1859.

This day His Excellency the Grand Master (by Her Majesty's command,) held a Chapter of the Most Illustrious Order of St Patrick, at the Castle of Dublin.

The following Knights Companions, in their Mantles, Stars, and Collars, assembled in the Robing Room, viz.:—The Marquess of Clanricarde, the Marquess of Headfort, the Marquess of Conyngham, the Earl of Howth, the Earl of Rosse, and Lord Gough, attended by the following Officers of the Order:—His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, Chancellor; Lowry V. Townley Balfour, Esq., Secretary; George L'Estrange, Esq., Usher of the Black Rod; Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, Knight Attendant on the Order; Molyneux Betham, Esq., Cork Herald; and Sheffield Betham, Esq., Dublin Herald.

At Three o'Clock P.M. the Knights Companions were called over by Ulster, and proceeded to the presence of the Grand Master, who was seated in the Chair of State in the Throne Room, and they, with their usual reverences, took their respective seats at the table, according to their stalls.

His Excellency then commanded Ulster to read Her Majesty's Letter authorizing the Chapter to

be held, and also Her Majesty's Letter appointing George L'Estrange, Esq., to be Usher of the Black Rod of the said Most Illustrious Order; which being done, George L'Estrange, Esq., was introduced by Ulster, and having made and subscribed the necessary Declaration, was invested with the Ribbon and Badge of Usher of the Black Rod to the said Most Illustrious Order.

The Most Honourable the Marquess of Downshire was then introduced by the Gentleman Usher, and kneeling, received the honour of Knighthood, and retired.

His Excellency the Grand Master then communicated to the Chapter that Her Majesty had been pleased to nominate Sir Arthur Wills Blundell Sandys Trumbull Windsor Hill, Knight, Marquess of Downshire, to be a Knight Companion of the said Most Illustrious Order, and to command that his Lordship be invested with the Ribbon and Badge.

By command of the Grand Master the two Junior Knights present proceeded to the door of the Chapter Room, and (Ulster bearing the insignia of the Order before them on a velvet cushion) conducted the Marquess of Downshire between them to the right of the Chair of State, where His Lordship made and subscribed the Declaration appointed by the Statutes; and His Excellency the Grand Master, assisted by the two Senior Knights Companions present, put the Ribbon with the Badge over the Marquess's right shoulder, pronouncing the admonition, after which the Marquess was congratulated by His Excellency and the Knights present, and took his seat at the table.

Ulster, Knight Attendant, then called over the names and titles of the Knights Companions present, who each rose from his seat on the pronunciation of his name, and retired with the usual reverences, whereupon the Chapter broke up.

J. BERNARD BURKE,
Ulster.

INDIA OFFICE, May 31, 1859.

The Queen has been pleased to issue a Commission under Her Royal Sign Manual, appointing—

The Right Honourable Sidney Herbert, M.P.;
Major-General Sir Robert John Hussey Vivian,
K.C.B.;
Colonel Sir Proby Thomas Cautley, K.C.B.;
Thomas Alexander, Esq. C.B.;
Colonel Edward Harris Greathed, C.B.;
William Farr, Esq. M.D.;
James Ranald Martin, Esq.;—and
John Sutherland, Esq. M.D.;

to be Her Majesty's Commissioners to inquire into, and report upon the measures which it may be expedient to take for maintaining and improving the health of all ranks of Her Majesty's Army serving in India.

FOREIGN-OFFICE, May 20, 1859.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Sidney Smith Saunders, Esq. now Her Majesty's Consul in Albania, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria.

The Queen has also been graciously pleased to appoint Henry Walter Ovenden, Esq. now Her Majesty's Consul at Maranham, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Baltimore.