

signs to disturb that Union, which we trust will be one great Characteristic of your Majesty's Reign.

That your Majesty may long continue to reign over a People gratefully loyal, flourishing, and free; honoured and beloved by your Subjects, esteemed and feared by your Enemies, is the fervent Prayer of

May it please your Majesty,
Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects.

The following Answer of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to His Majesty's most gracious Letter, has been presented to His Majesty by the Earl of Halifax, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

May it please your Majesty,

WE received your Majesty's most gracious Letter, with the Respect and Gratitude which are due to such a distinguishing Proof of your Royal Favour.

Your Majesty's Approbation of our past Conduct, we consider as the most agreeable Recompence we could have received for having done our Duty. Your Royal Declaration of your Resolution to support our Church in all Her Rights and Privileges, affords us the greatest Satisfaction; and we rely upon it as the most perfect Security.

It shall be our Care, in Obedience to your Majesty's Command, to exert ourselves so zealously in discouraging Vice and Infidelity, as will shew how desirous we are to merit the Confidence your Majesty reposes in us; and we deem it our peculiar Felicity, that we are subject to a Sovereign, who, by exciting us to our proper Work, shews us, that the faithful and conscientious Discharge of our Duty is the most certain Recommendation to His Favour.

We thankfully ascribe the Return of the inestimable Benefits of Peace to the Blessing of Divine Providence upon the Wisdom and Steadiness with which your Majesty hath carried on the Negotiations for that Salutary Purpose; and, as by the Definitive Treaty with your Enemies, your Majesty hath gained Acquisitions of vast Extent, and of great Importance to your Crown, which far exceed the most sanguine Expectations of your Subjects at the Commencement of the War, and are fully adequate to the great Successes of the British Arms, it hath been, and shall be our Care, at this Juncture, to instil into the Minds of our People, proper Sentiments of Gratitude towards your Majesty, and of Thankfulness to Almighty God, whose Hand they discern and bless in the Conduct of this great Event.

We beg Leave to offer our humble Thanks to your Majesty, for your Attention to the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, and of the Reformed Religion in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. It shall be our Endeavour to apply the Sum appropriated by your Royal Bounty for that Purpose, in such a Manner as may best answer the generous and pious Intention with which it is bestowed, and to exert the greatest Zeal on our Part, to communicate the Blessings of Knowledge, and the Arts of Peace, to those of our Countrymen, who have displayed their Valour during the War, with no less Benefit to Great Britain, than Glory to themselves.

We have had Experience on so many former Occasions, of the Loyalty, Integrity, and Prudence of the noble Lord, whom your Majesty has appointed to represent your Royal Person in this General Assembly: We are so sensible of his Abilities to discharge this important Trust, of his Zeal for Religion, and of his Attention to the true Interests of this Church, that we consider your Majesty's repeated Choice of him as an additional Mark of your Favour and Regard to us.

Permit us to assure your Majesty, that we shall conduct our Deliberations and Proceedings with such Temper and Moderation, with such Brotherly Love and Unanimity, as, we trust, shall secure to us the Continuance of your Royal Protection and Favour, which, next to the Approbation of that God, whom we serve, we esteem our greatest Honour and Hap-

That Almighty God may protect your Person, prolong your Days, and bless your Administration; that He may render the Peace, which you have concluded, as permanent as it is honourable; that you may behold the increasing Felicity of your People; that you may be honoured as the Instrument of Divine Providence for their Good; and that, after reigning long in Righteousness, and ruling in Judgment, you may receive the Recompence of an Heavily Crown, are the earnest Prayers of,

May it please your Majesty,
Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient,
and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in
this National Assembly of the
Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and
at our Appointment, by
Edinburgh, *William Robertson, Moderator.*
May 28, 1763.

The following Address of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland has been presented to the King by the Earl of Halifax, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State: Which Address His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

May it please your Majesty,

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland, met in a National Assembly, embrace with Pleasure this first Opportunity of presenting our humble Congratulations upon the Birth of the Prince of Wales. As we are attached to your Majesty from Love no less than from Duty; an Event, which contributes so much to your domestick Felicity, affords us the most sincere Joy. As we are deeply sensible of our own Happiness under your righteous and mild Administration, we could frame no better Wish for After-Ages, than that the same Blessings, which we enjoy, might be transmitted to them. We adore the Goodness of God, who hath heard our Prayers, and who now giveth us the Prospect, that our Posterity shall be governed by a Prince formed by your Majesty's Precepts, and taught by your Example to be the Guardian of a free Constitution, and the Father of His People.

To our Expressions of Joy, on Account of this important Event, we beg your Majesty's Permission to add our warmest Congratulations on the Re-establishment of Peace. After a long War, the most extensive, and the most successful, but at the same Time the most burthenome ever carried on by Great Britain, Peace became a desirable Object to a Nation, whose Wealth and Power are derived from its Commerce. Your Majesty, undazzled by the Splendour of continual Victories, and always attentive to the true Interests of your People, took early Measures for procuring them this necessary Blessing: And your Magnanimity and Steadiness have accomplished the Salutary Work, which your Wisdom and Humanity prompted you to undertake.

By a Definitive Treaty with your Enemies, the great Objects, for which the War was undertaken, are attained; the Possessions of chief Consequence to Britain are secured; new Sources of Commerce are opened; and Territories are added to your Crown, more extensive and of greater Value than have been acquired by any Nation since the Division of Europe into great Kingdoms, and the Establishment of a Balance of Power, have put a Stop to the Rapidity of Conquest. And as your Majesty can now turn your whole Attention towards the Cultivation and the Encouragement of the Arts of Peace, which even under the Pressure, and amidst the Avocations of War, you did not neglect, these under your Royal Patronage must revive and flourish, and Britain, as it is the greatest, will become the most polished and illustrious Nation in Europe.

Nor are our Hopes of beneficial Consequences, from the Return of Peace, confined to ourselves alone. As the chief Obstacles, which have hitherto prevented the Instruction of the American Nations are