

The Approbation of the Spirit and Proceedings of former Assemblies, which your Majesty's Benignity has condescended to express with so much Paternal Affection, is peculiarly grateful to us as a Body, and operates on our Feelings as an Encouragement to follow, in Attachment to your Majesty's Person, in Zeal for the Interests of Religion, and in Charity towards one another, the Example of those enlightened and virtuous Men who have gone before us, and to deserve, like them, that Sanction of Royal Authority which gives Solemnity and Effect to the Decisions of our National Church.

Impressed with a just Sense of the important Nature of those Objects which claim our Consideration, we beg Leave to assure your Majesty, that the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, the Maintenance of the Reformed Religion, the Discouragement of Vice and Immorality, and the Diffusion of a Spirit of Charity and Benevolence, and of Submission to the Laws, are Ends which shall continue to excite in our Minds the most ardent Zeal for their Attainment.

In the trying and eventful Period in which we live, we have felt that our Labours have become doubly important, both to private Happiness, and the Public Safety; while we have also had the Mortification to discover that in the same Proportion they have been rendered more painful and difficult, by the Opposition of factious Men, Enemies of our Religion, and of all social Order, and legal Government. We rejoice, that our honest and unremitting Exertions, in Union with those of your Majesty's other good and loyal Subjects, have hitherto been successful in frustrating their pernicious Designs. And in the full Assurance of the continued Favour of Providence to a righteous Cause, we look forward with Confidence to the Termination of this great Conflict, when your Majesty shall be enabled to transmit to Posterity the unimpaired Enjoyment of all the Blessings, Civil and Religious, of our free and happy Constitution.

The Distress under which a large Portion of our Fellow-creatures has inevitably laboured during these Times of Scarcity with which it has pleased Almighty God to visit us, has repeatedly claimed our serious Attention. And amidst the Hardships to which our People must still submit, it gives us the most sincere Satisfaction to assure your Majesty that in no Period known to us, have the good Sense, the Patriotism, and the Charity of the Country been more conspicuously displayed. The Care employed by the opulent and well-informed to point out the Nature and Extent of the Visitation, and to provide the Means of alleviating its Pressure, has been most meritorious. Of this the Poor themselves are not insensible; and the Patience and Resignation which they have very generally exercised, under Difficulties seldom known in our Land, give us Room to hope, that in the honest Pursuits of Industry, and in dutiful Submission to lawful Authority, they will quietly wait for the Return of a more favourable Harvest. Meanwhile we beg Leave to assure your Majesty, that in the individual Discharge of the Duties of our Function, we shall not fail to inculcate, with additional Ardour the indispensable Obligation of relieving, according to the Abilities of each, the Necessities of the Poor.

Your Majesty's Donation of One thousand Pounds for propagating Christian Knowledge in the High-

lands and Islands of Scotland, was received with much Gratitude, as a fresh Instance of your paternal Solicitude for the best Interests of your People, as well as of the Confidence which you are pleased to repose in the Wisdom and Fidelity of this Assembly: And it shall be our Endeavour, by a prudent and just Application of it, to promote the pious Purposes for which it is bestowed.

*The Appointment of the Earl of Leven and Melville, to represent your Majesty's sacred Person and Royal Authority in this present Assembly, we regard as a pleasing Testimony of your Affection to our Church. The Attachment of this Noble Lord to your Majesty's Person, his Zeal for the Interests of the Church of Scotland, and the Virtues of his private Life, the eminent Qualifications which have recommended him to your Majesty's repeated Choice, endear him to us in the Execution of the high and important Trust committed to his Care. The flattering Manner in which he has communicated the gracious Assurance of the Sense which your Majesty is pleased to entertain of our steady and firm Zeal for your Service, has given us the truest Pleasure: And we rely with entire Confidence in your Majesty's Resolution to preserve and maintain the Church of Scotland, as by Law established, in the full and free Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges.

That Almighty God may continue to preserve your sacred Life, to guide your Councils, and prosper your Administration; that he may bless our most Gracious Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family; and that after a long Life of eminent and exemplary Virtue upon Earth, you may, through the Merits of Jesus Christ our Lord, receive in Heaven the Recompense of Reward, are the sincere 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
General Assembly of the Church of
Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and at
our Appointment, by

George Baird, Moderator.
Edinburgh, 24th May, 1800.

[Transmitted by the Earl of Leven.]

In the Gazette, Page 544, Line 33, for *Work-
ingham* read *Wokingham*.

Lord Chamberlain's-Office, May 27, 1800.

SUCH Ladies as desire to dance Minuets at the Ball which is to be at St. James's on Wednesday the 4th of June next, are requested to send their Names and Rank, in Writing, to this Office on or before Monday the 2d of June, and to send for their Tickets the next Day (Tuesday) between the Hours of Eleven in the Morning and Three in the Afternoon; and to prevent the Inconveniencies which have arisen from the Space before Their Majesties, which is allotted for Minuet Dancing, being exceedingly crowded, it is requested that those Ladies only who mean to dance will send for Dancers' Tickets, and sit in those Places, as the Seats have been found too few to accommodate the Dancers.