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From Saturday May 12. to Tuesday May 15. 1733.

Whitehall, May 11.

ON the 3d Instant the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met at Edinburgh, and chose for their Moderator Mr. John Gowdie, one of the Ministers of that City, His Majesty's Commission constituting the Right Honourable the Marquess of Lothian His Majesty's High Commissioner, was read, as was also His Majesty's most gracious Letter to the General Assembly. His Majesty's High Commissioner made a Speech to the Assembly, to which the Moderator in their Name returned a very respectful Answer. Then a Committee being appointed, drew up a most loyal and dutiful Answer to His Majesty's most gracious Letter; which Answer was unanimously agreed to; and having been transmitted to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has by him been laid before His Majesty, who was pleased to receive it very graciously, and is as follows.

May it please your Majesty,

IT is with the greatest Joy, we understand by your Majesty's most gracious Letter, that the Proceedings of our former Assemblies have given so much Satisfaction to your Majesty, that you are now graciously pleased to countenance our present Meeting with your Royal Approbation and Authority, and to renew the Assurances formerly given us of your fixed and unalterable Resolution, to maintain this National Church in all its Rights and Priviledges.

As it is our unquestionable Duty, so it shall be our Study and Care, to express the most sincere Loyalty, Zeal, and Affection for your Majesty's Person and Government, and for your Royal Family,

As we are now met together by the good Providence of God, and under the Protection of your Majesty's Authority, so we shall sincerely and heartily, through Divine Grace, endeavour to promote, as far as in us lies, the Honour and Glory of God, the Peace and Prosperity of the Church of which we are Members, the Advancement of true Religion and Virtue, and the Good of our Country; and in order thereunto, we shall, according to your Majesty's gracious Recommendation, consult upon the proper Means of preventing the Growth of Popery, and suppressing all Prophaneness and Immorality.

We shall be much encouraged, in pursuing these great and good Ends, by the Assurance your Majesty is pleased to give us, that while we do so, we may always depend upon your Royal Protection and Favour, and your ready Concurrence in such prudent Measures as may most effectually answer such pious Purposes.

We hope that all our Consultations shall be conducted with that Prudence and Moderation, that Charity and Brotherly Love, that becomes such a Body; which, under God, and the gracious Influence of your Majesty's Countenance, will give Weight to our Determinations, and Success to our Endeavours.

The Loyalty and Zeal of the most Honourable the Marquess of Lothian for your Majesty's Service, his affectionate Concern for the Church of Scotland, his Abilities for the Discharge of so great a Trust, of which we have had former Experience, make your Majesty's Choice of him to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly most acceptable to us; and we beg Leave to assure your Majesty, that nothing shall be wanting on our Part, to make the Discharge of his high Trust easy and agreeable to him,

We offer up our most unfeigned Thanks to our gracious God, that he has been pleased, in his great Goodness, to place your Majesty upon the Throne of your Ancestors, which is so great a Blessing, not only to your Majesty's own Dominions, but to all the Protestant Churches: And we fervently pray, That God may bless and long preserve your Majesty; That you may be ever under the gracious Protection of his Providence, and Conduct of his good Spirit; That he may bless and long preserve your Royal Consort the Queen, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and all the rest of the Royal Family; and that there may never be wanting one of your Royal House to sway the Scepter over us; these are, and shall be, the Prayers of,

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

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

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

J. Gowdie, Moderator.

Edinburgh, May 5, 1733,

Whitehall