

The Answer of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to His Majesty's most gracious Letter.

May it please your Majesty,

WE received your Majesty's most gracious Letter with that Respect and Gratitude which we owe to the best of Sovereigns, under whose auspicious Government we enjoy so many inestimable Blessings.

Your Majesty's countenancing our present Meeting with your Royal Approbation and Authority, is one of the many Evidences you have given of your Regard for the Prosperity of this National Church.

Nothing can do more Honour to us, than that your Majesty is graciously pleased to take Notice of our Zeal and Steadiness in promoting true Piety, and of our Loyalty, Attachment, and Affection to your Sacred Person and Government.

When we reflect upon the Justice and Mildness of your Government, and the unwearied Attention your Majesty has given to the Prosperity of all who are so happy as to live under it; We have the greatest Confidence and Joy in the Assurances of your Majesty's firm Resolution to protect the Church of Scotland as by Law established, and to maintain it in the full Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges:— At the same Time, it fills our Hearts with Gratitude to Almighty God, by whom Kings reign, with an ardent Zeal, to support your Majesty's Government, and with the warmest Resolution to promote the same pious and loyal Principles, where-ever our Influence can reach; and particularly in the Breasts of all those with whom we are immediately concerned.

Your Majesty, in the present critical Juncture, has given such signal Proofs of your Fortitude and Steadiness, in the Support of the Rights and Privileges of the Crown of Britain, and of all, even it's remotest Subjects, against the Attempts and Usurpations of lawless Power, that we consider ourselves as called upon in a particular Manner to exert our utmost Endeavours in Defence of your Majesty's Sacred Person, and in Support of that Constitution and Government, which must be dear to us as Men, Britons, and Protestants.

Your Majesty's Renewal of your Royal Bounty for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, and Places where Popery and Ignorance abound, we acknowledge with all Thankfulness, and shall not fail to employ so pious a Gift, for promoting the important Purposes for which it is most graciously bestowed.

The Choice your Majesty has again been pleased to make of Lord Cathcart, to represent your Person in this Assembly, gives the highest Pleasure to us, and to every Member of the Church of Scotland.

The Proofs your Majesty has had of his Fidelity, Prudence, and Conduct, and the Knowledge we have of his steady and firm Attachment to your Majesty's Person, Family, and

Government, and of his Regard and Zeal for the Rights and Interests of the Church of Scotland, must render the Choice of him most acceptable to us, and endear him to all who wish well to our present happy Establishment in Church and State.

We can with great Truth assure your Majesty, that as we are at this Time met together in the National Assembly of this Church, our best Endeavours shall be employed to promote the good and desirable End of advancing true Piety and Virtue, the great Intent of our present Meeting; studying to approve ourselves to Almighty God, and to justify the Trust and Confidence your Majesty is most graciously pleased to repose in us.

That He, who is the King of Kings, may pour down his choicest Blessings upon your Majesty's Person and Family—That the Crown may long flourish upon your Sacred Head, and your precious Life be preserved for a Blessing to these Realms—That that Wisdom, which is from above, may inspire all your Councils, and that Strength, which is Almighty, may go forth with your Arms—That God may abundantly bless his Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, the Princess Dowager of Wales, the Duke, the Princesses, and all the Branches of your Royal Family; and that after a long and happy Reign upon Earth, you may at last be received into that Kingdom which cannot be moved, are and shall be the sincere and hearty 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

Patrick Cuming, Moderator.

Edinburgh, May 22, 1756.

Turin, May 19. M. Durini set out from hence this Morning for France, carrying with him the three Caps for the new Cardinals in France.

Dresden, May 23. The Royal Family is not yet returned from Leipzig. His Majesty the King of Poland being indisposed with the Gout, the Conferences at Halle, which have been interrupted by the Leipzig Fair, are to be resumed, and the Saxon Commissaries have again hired their Apartments in that Town for two Months.

Hague, May 27. The Princess Governante has declared her Intention of setting out Tomorrow for Utrecht, with the young Prince Stadtholder, and the Princess Caroline his Sister. That Night her Royal Highness proposed to rest at the House of Baron Ablaing de Giefenbourg, and to proceed the next Day to Dieren, where she intends to pass five or six Weeks; after