



The Edinburgh Gazette

Published by Authority.

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FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1919.

*Scottish Office, Whitehall,
27th May 1919.*

THE following Address of the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland, convened in General Assembly, having been transmitted by His Grace the Lord High Commissioner to the Right Honourable Robert Munro, His Majesty's Secretary for Scotland, has been by him laid before the King, who was pleased to receive the same very graciously.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

May it please Your Majesty,—

We, Your Majesty's most loyal and devoted subjects, Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland, met in General Assembly, have received with deep respect and gratification the most gracious letter with which Your Majesty has honoured us through His Grace the Lord High Commissioner.

We thank Your Majesty for the renewed assurance of sincere regard for the Church of Scotland, of desire for her prosperity and welfare, and confidence in her fitness to discharge her great duties, which Your Majesty has been pleased to express. Such words of confidence and approval from our Gracious Sovereign are very deeply valued by our Church.

On behalf of our people we thank Your Majesty for the warm tribute which Your Majesty has graciously paid to the devoted gallantry and endurance of the sailors, soldiers, and airmen of our Nation throughout the War.

On our part we know that we speak for the whole Nation when we respectfully tender to Your Majesty, to Her Majesty the Queen, and to all the members of the Royal House, our deep and loyal gratitude for the priceless contribution to the National cause which has come from the beloved occupants of the Throne and their Family. The unbroken unity of Sovereign and people throughout the long years of struggle and the true sympathy constantly manifested by our King and Queen in the sorrows of countless homes will never be forgotten.

With profound gratitude do we join with Your Majesty in offering thanks to Almighty God for the great deliverance He hath wrought, for the victory over our foes, and for the approach of peace. That the new era on which our Nation is entering may be worthy of the vast sacrifices made, is our Church's earnest prayer, and to accomplish this will be her steadfast aim. Your Majesty's invitation to the Churches of our land to foster and develop the spirit of brotherhood throughout the community is one which strikes an answering chord in all our hearts, and we assure Your Majesty that no effort on our part will be lacking to help on the fullest development of this most Christian Grace in the life of the Scottish people. That peace on earth and goodwill among men may increasingly prevail both within our own borders and throughout the whole world is, may it please Your Majesty, our fervent desire, and will be in coming days our most active endeavour.

We hail with glad satisfaction the return of His Grace the Duke of Atholl, as Your Majesty's