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FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

WHITEHALL—May 30, 1801.

THE following Addresses of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, having been transmitted by the Earl of Leven and Melvill, his Majesty's High Commissioner, to his Grace the Duke of Portland, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, have been by him presented to the King; which Addresses his Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously:

May it please your Majesty,

We have received, with the most sincere respect and gratitude, the very gracious letter with which your Majesty has been pleased to honour this meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Sensible that it is our peculiar duty to provide for the preservation of pure religion, and remembering that the advancement of piety, and the practice of every Christian duty, at all times demand from us the greatest assiduity and care, we feel that these considerations are entitled to more than ordinary attention, when notions and principles, equally destructive of the temporal and eternal welfare of those who entertain them, have been industriously propagated amongst all orders and degrees of men. These notions and principles, we beg leave to assure your Majesty, it is our firm purpose steadily and uniformly to oppose; and we hope that our endeavours, combining with the efforts of all to whom the interests of Christianity are sacred, and aided by the blessing of the Most High, may still be effectual to expose their evil tendency, and check their progress. In times like the present, when the enemies of religion (like the enemies of social order) are always on the watch, and will not fail to profit by every advantage which lukewarmness or inadvertence may afford them, we feel that the duties incumbent on us are unusually difficult

and momentous. We are convinced, that any relaxation of those exertions, which Divine Providence has hitherto crowned with success, may be productive of the most fatal and ruinous effects; and, acting under the influence of this conviction, we shall study to afford to the friends of piety and good morals every protection which can result from the vigilant discharge of the important duties which your Majesty has so earnestly recommended to our attention.

We are encouraged to apply ourselves, with the most unwearied zeal and assiduity to the accomplishment of this great object, by the confidence which your Majesty is pleased to repose in us: And while we have a proper sense of the difficulties with which the friends of religion and good order have to contend, we are grateful to Almighty God that we are blessed with a Sovereign whose example and authority are uniformly employed to enforce the sanctions of religion, and give weight to the admonitions of its teachers.

We trust, that both as individuals watching over the people under our care, and as an Assembly consulting for the general interest of the Church of Scotland, we shall ever maintain that sacred sense of religious obligation, that loyal attachment to your Majesty's person and Government, that tender concern for the welfare of the people committed to our charge, and that spirit of Christian love and charity towards each other, which have hitherto recommended us to your royal protection, and which your Majesty has condescended to mention with approbation.

We rely with entire confidence on your Majesty's gracious assurance, that the just rights and privileges of the Church of Scotland are objects of your especial care; and that it is your resolution to maintain them, unimpaired: that your Majesty has deigned to admonish us with such affectionate zeal, of the various and important duties incumbent on us, we consider as a renewed

proof of that warm concern for the interests of religion, and the prosperity of your people, which has rendered your Majesty so justly dear to all good men. We are sensible that on the manner in which these duties are discharged, the welfare of the establishment, the interests of civil society, and the influence of religion, must in a great measure depend; and we take the liberty to assure your Majesty, that both by our precepts and our example, we shall ever study to promote the interests of religion and virtue, and to diffuse among the people under our care sentiments of attachment to our happy constitution, loyalty to your Majesty's person and Government, and zeal for the public good.

The representation of your royal person in our General Assemblies we regard with the highest respect as the symbol of that union between church and state, which tends to give stability to both. We receive, as a testimony of your paternal regard for the interests of the Church of Scotland, the appointment of the Earl of Leven and Melvill as your Majesty's Commissioner in this Assembly: his approved loyalty to your Majesty, his warm zeal for the cause of religion, his hereditary attachment to the Church of Scotland, and his tried fidelity in the high office with which your Majesty has again been pleased to invest him, give us the fullest confidence that we shall continue to receive from his faithful services the most effectual co-operation and support in promoting the two great ends of religion, the glory of God, and the welfare of mankind.

Your Majesty's donation of 1000*l.* for the propagation of Christian knowledge in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, we have received with the most sincere gratitude; and it shall be our care to employ this mark of your royal munificence for promoting, in the most efficacious manner, the pious purpose for which it is bestowed.

That Almighty God, the God and Father of

[Price Sixpence.]