

The entire Approbation, which from the Experience of a long Course of Years, your Majesty has condescended to express of former General Assemblies, is to us a most valuable Recompence for our past Labours in the Discharge of our Duty; and it forcibly reminds us of the many signal Blessings which, by the Favor of Divine Providence, our Church and Nation have enjoyed, under the Auspices of a King to whose Heart nothing is dearer than the Happiness of His people, and to whose Regard nothing is a more effectual Recommendation than a sincere desire to promote that Object.

The Confidence which your Majesty is pleased to repose in this General Assembly we are anxious to justify and confirm, as well by persevering Attention to the great Interests of Religion and Order, as by that Moderation in our Proceedings, and that mutual Charity, which are so congenial to the Spirit of the Gospel, and so conducive to the Dignity and Usefulness of our Deliberations.

We receive with the utmost Satisfaction the renewed Assurance of your Majesty's unalterable Resolution to maintain the Church we represent in the full Possession and Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges as by Law established; and in the Exercise of our Functions we firmly rely upon your Majesty's effectual Co-operation and Support.

We are deeply sensible of the Importance of the Objects of our Care. We know and feel, that to our Charge are committed the most essential Interests of your Majesty's People in this Part of the United Kingdom, their Morals and their Religion, the indispensable Means of their Happiness here, and the only Ground of their Hopes hereafter.

Animated in the Work of our Ministry by your Majesty's affectionate Recommendations, we will watch over the Flock with unceasing Vigilance, and be careful to lead them in those Paths of Righteousness in which we may hope to obtain the Continuance of that Divine Protection with which we have hitherto been so signally favored. We feel that this is at all Times our bounden Duty, and that a peculiar Degree of Importance is attached to the effectual Discharge of it in the present Times of Difficulty and Danger. We should be wanting, however, in the Duty we owe to those over whom we preside in the Offices of Religion, if we did not assure your Majesty, that their good Dispositions in the present trying Circumstances at once encourage and assist our Exertions.

The Re-appointment of the Right Honorable Francis Lord Napier to represent your Majesty's Royal Person in this General Assembly is to us most acceptable. The Experience we have had of the Affection of that Noble Lord for your Majesty's Person and Government, of the Knowledge and Uprightness with which he has formerly fulfilled the Duties of that high Office, and of his Zeal for the Interest of the Church of Scotland entitles him to our highest Honor and regard.

We receive your Majesty's Royal Donation for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, and the Principles of the Reformed Religion, in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, as a pleasing Expression of your Majesty's unremitting Attention to the best Interests of your People. It shall be our Care to secure, by a faithful and considerate Application of this Bounty, the valuable Objects for which it has been bestowed.

That Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, may protect your Majesty's Person, and prosper the Administration of your Government; that he may bless the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family; and that, after a long and happy Reign over a loyal and affectionate People, you may at length be received to the Glories of the Heavenly Kingdom, are the fervent 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

(Signed) *John Inglis*, Moderator.
Edinburgh, May 19, 1804.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland, met in the General Assembly, beg Leave to approach the Throne, in the present alarming Situation of the Affairs of Europe, with Sentiments of the most sincere and affectionate Attachment to your Majesty's Person and Government.

Persuaded that your Majesty's paternal Care preserved to us the Blessings of Peace, so long as they could be retained with Safety and Honour, we beheld with Indignation that Spirit of Aggression and Aggrandizement in the Ruler of France, which obliged your Majesty to draw the Sword in Defence of every Thing we regard as dear. His lawless Ambition, not satisfied with the Overthrow of several independent Governments, with the Extinction of some of the most free and prosperous States, and with the Subjugation of France itself to a most odious Tyranny, seems to aim at nothing less than universal Domination.

Regarding the Prosperity and Power of Britain as the chief Obstacles to the Progress of his Despotism, he directs all his Force, and that of his Allies, to the Invasion of our Country, and by a mighty and unprecedented Armament, in the Fierceness of his Rage, threatens us with Desolation.

Although we consider the present War as the most arduous and important Contest in which our Country has ever been engaged; although we feel that our Religion, our Liberties, our Laws, and our Existence as a Nation are at Stake; yet trusting in the Justice of our Cause, and looking up with humble Confidence for the Continuance of that Divine Protection which has hitherto supported us, we behold the immense Preparations of the Enemy without Dismay.

We rejoice in that Ardour and Enthusiasm in the Cause of their Country which animate all Classes of your Majesty's Subjects; and we have peculiar Satisfaction in being able to assure your Majesty, that this generous and patriotic Spirit glows in the Hearts of the People of Scotland.

We beg leave to congratulate your Majesty on the Success which has attended your Arms in confining within their Ports, formidable Armaments, intended to carry War in all its Horrors, into the Heart of our Country; and on the important Con-