

Islands of Scotland, and we pledge ourselves to the faithful administration of a fund devoted by our gracious Sovereign to an object so sacred.

That the Supreme Lord of heaven and earth, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, may in the good pleasure of His will pour down the most precious gifts of His providence and the abundant riches of His grace on your Majesty, on your Royal Consort the Prince Albert, on the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family; that He may prosper the wise and vigorous measures of your Government, that wisdom and knowledge may be the stability of your times, and the fear of the Lord your treasure, that the time may soon arrive when nation shall not lift up the sword against nation, and when the olive of peace shall bud forth pleasantly throughout all the kingdoms of the earth, and that when time shall be no longer, your Majesty, and all who are most dear to you, shall inherit a kingdom which shall not be moved, is the earnest prayer of, may it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most loyal and faithful 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
James Grant, D.D., Moderator.

Edinburgh, 22nd May, 1854.

To the QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland met in General Assembly, embrace the earliest opportunity of approaching your Majesty's Throne, at this interesting juncture, to express our sincere and inviolable attachment to your Majesty's royal person and Government.

We join most cordially with our fellow subjects in every affectionate testimony of loyalty to our most gracious sovereign, and of zeal for the honour and happiness of our country.

As servants of the God of peace we deplore the war in which your Majesty has recently been called to engage, and we contemplate with deep and most painful concern the perils and miseries with which it threatens to be attended. But feeling persuaded that it has been undertaken in support of the weak against a powerful aggression, and for the purpose of maintaining the independence of the States of Europe, we believe it to be unavoidable. We will not fail to commend the cause in which our country is engaged to Him who ruleth in the kingdoms of men. It will be our fervent prayer that your Majesty's well concerted and vigorous efforts, combined with those of your Allies, may, by the Divine blessing, frustrate the designs and repel the unjust and oppressive movements of the enemy; and that your Majesty, supported by the wise and generous patriotism of your faithful subjects, may be enabled to bring the present formidable and alarming contest to a speedy, successful, and glorious issue.

We consider it to be our duty at such a crisis to be indefatigably diligent in the functions of our sacred office, that we may lead the people under our care to a just and devout consideration of the awful judgments which are abroad in the earth, in order to impress them with a deep sense of their manifold transgressions, and excite them to such a reformation of heart and life as may, through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, avert from our country the calamities which our iniquities most justly deserve.

That the Lord of Hosts may crown with victory your Majesty's fleets and armies, that the war which has arisen may soon terminate in an honourable and lasting peace, and that your Majesty may long continue to reign the beloved Sovereign of a free, loyal, religious and happy people, is the sincere and earnest prayer of, may it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most loyal and faithful 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
James Grant, D.D., Moderator.

Edinburgh, 23rd May, 1854.

Admiralty, June 2, 1854.

DESPATCHES have been received at this Office from Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B, Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Baltic, of which the following are copies:

No 96.

SIR, *Her Majesty's Ship Duke of Wellington, off Hango Head, May 20, 1854.*

I BEG to enclose a letter from Captain Yelverton, of the Arrogant, giving an account of a smart operation he performed at Ekness, 12 miles in the interior of the country. Great credit is due to him for his perseverance in threading up so narrow and intricate a navigation; and it will show the enemy they are not safe even in their country towns.

Captain Yelverton very properly abstained from damaging the town.

He speaks very highly of the gallantry of Captain Hall, of the Hecla (who I am sorry to say is slightly wounded), as also of Lieutenant Haggard, first of the Arrogant, and Lieutenant Crew Read, the senior lieutenant of the Hecla, which gallant officer has received a severe wound, which I fear has endangered the sight of his eye. All the officers and men behaved as British seamen and marines were wont to.

I enclose a list of killed and wounded on this service.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. NAPIER,
Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

I also enclose a sketch of Ekness, and one of the Hecla's funnel.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Her Majesty's Ship Arrogant, Skagaedslenden, May 20, 1854.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I came into the inner passage yesterday, in company with the Hecla, for the purpose of examining the channel.

At three in the afternoon, just as I was about to anchor a little beyond Teverminne, a strong force of the enemy's troops opened their fire upon both ships from behind an extensive sand-bank; the effect, however, of a few broadsides from Hecla and this ship soon dispersed them.

No one, I am glad to be able to say, was hurt in either vessel.

I did nothing to provoke this attack on the part of the enemy.

I ascertained from a pilot who lives here that