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FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1884.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace, June 11, 1884.

OTICE is hereby given, that the State
Apartments of Windsor Castle will be
closed on and after Tuesday next, the 17th instant, until further orders.

Whitehall, June 11, 1884.

THE following Address of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, having been transmitted by John Campbell, Earl of Aberdeen, to the Right Honourable Sir William Vernon Harcourt, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has been by him presented to the Queen, which Address Her Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously:-

May it please your Majesty,

WE, Your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland now convened in General Assembly, beg most respectfully and gratefully to acknowledge Your Majesty's most gracious letter. It is with the highest satisfaction and pleasure that we again receive the assurance of Your Majesty's continued regard for the Church of Scotland, of Your confidence in her loyalty and attachment to Your Majesty's person, and of Your sympathy with the work in which she is engaged.

We feel greatly encouraged in this work by Your Majesty's gracious words, as well as by the many acts which manifest Your attachment to the National Church. We shall be animated thereby to renewed effort; and we hope, through the aid of God's grace, and by a due apprehension of our responsibility as Ministers of Christ, to prove ourselves faithful to our high calling and to fulfil Your Majesty's loving wish for the advancement of religion in the land, and for the promotion of the happiness of Your Majesty's subjects in Scot-

We receive with lively gratitude Your Majesty's munificent gift of two thousand pounds for the advancement of religion in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. It will be our earnest endeavour to apply this sum in such a manner as will further the benevolent objects which Your Majesty has so warmly at heart.

It is most pleasing to us that Your Majesty has again seen meet to appoint the Right Honourable John Campbell, Earl of Aberdeen, to represent Your Royal Person in this General Assembly. Bearing a name which will long hold a place in the grateful recollection of the Church of Scotland, esteemed so highly for his personal virtues, and having experienced his unwearied courtesy and kindness when formerly filling this high office, we rejoice in his appointment and thank Your Majesty for it.

Our deepest sympathies have been with Your Majesty and the Royal Family under the severe affliction which has recently visited Your Majesty's heart and home. The sudden and lamented death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, in the midst of a life so full of promise, has been a sorrow to the whole land, and all mourn. thank God for the signal support vouchsafed, under this heavy bereavement, to Your Majesty and the Duchess of Albany; and our fervent prayer is that the spirit of all consolation may rest abundantly on Your Majesty and on all the

Members of the Royal House.

That the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the giver of all good and perfect gifts, may in His great love, visit with His choicest blessings Your Majesty and all the Royal Family, strengthening Your Majesty for the performance of the duties of Your exalted station, comforting You in all Your sorrows, and at length receiving You into His Heavenly Kingdom is the carnest prayer

May it please Your Majesty, Your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland met in this General Assembly. Signed in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment by

Peter Mackenzie, D.D., Moderator. Edinburgh, 27th May, 1884.

(H. 4774.)

Board of Trade (Harbour Department),

Whitehall Gardens, June 12, 1084.

THE Board of Trade have received through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Baltimore, reporting that it has been decided that vessels entering the Chesapeake Bay from foreign ports will not be obliged to stop at the quarantine station at Cape Charles if bound for the Port of Baltimore.

Pilots have been instructed accordingly and will carry flags for hoisting on incoming vessels boarded outside the Capes, in order that the destination of such vessels may be known by the officers in charge of the Cape Charles quarautine