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FRIDAY, MAY 29, 1903.

*Scottish Office, Whitehall,
May 28, 1903.*

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 Lord Balfour of Burleigh, K.T., 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 faithful and loyal subjects the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland convened in General Assembly, have received with feelings of deepest gratitude Your Majesty's most gracious Letter sent to us through His Grace the Lord High Commissioner.

That our meeting and proceedings are of so much interest to Your Majesty will be a further encouragement for us to labour for the moral and spiritual welfare of the people committed to our charge.

We charge with gladness Your Majesty's renewed assurances of your fixed determination to maintain the Church of Scotland as by law established in the full and free enjoyment of its rights and privileges.

If anything were needed to deepen our loyalty it would be found in the confirmation given of these assurances by Your Majesty's joining in our National worship during your residence in the Highlands.

To us as to all Your subjects throughout the Empire Your Majesty's restoration to health, and the great solemnity of the Coronation of Your Majesties caused profound thankfulness and joy.

We beg leave to assure Your Majesty that the recent visit of Your Majesty and our Gracious Queen Alexandra gave unbounded satisfaction to the people of Scotland.

The General Assembly congratulates itself on the appointment of the Right Honourable the Earl of Leven and Melville as Lord High Com-

missioner. His selection by Your Majesty as the representative of the Sovereign is peculiarly acceptable, and our grateful recollections of his uniform courtesy on former occasions make his return amongst us doubly welcome.

We gratefully accept Your Majesty's generous gift of two thousand pounds and assure Your Majesty that it will be our care to administer it so as to further the ends for which it has been bestowed.

We pray that He by whom Kings reign and Princes decree justice may bestow in rich abundance on Your Majesty, our Gracious Queen Alexandra, and all the members of the Royal House the blessing that cometh from above, that Your Majesty's throne may be established in righteousness, and that You may be long spared in health and happiness to reign over a loyal, prosperous, and religious people.

May it please Your Majesty Your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland convened in General Assembly.

Signed in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment by

L. S.

JOHN GILLESPIE, LL.D.,
Moderator.

Edinburgh, 22nd May, 1903.

*Crown Office,
May 26, 1903.*

The KING has been pleased, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal, respectively, to present—
The Reverend John Moore Lester, M.A., to the Vicarage of Yarcombe, in the county of Devon and diocese of Exeter, void by the resignation of the Reverend George Forrester Watson, the last Incumbent, and
The Reverend Basil Arthur Patten, M.A., to the Vicarage of Whittlebury-with-Silverstone, in