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Whitehall, May 26.

ON the 4th Instant the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met at Edinburgh, and chose for their Moderator Mr. William Hamilton. His Majesty's Commission to the Right Honourable the Earl of Findlater and Seafield was read, as was likewise His Majesty's most gracious Letter to the Assembly. His Majesty's High Commissioner made a Speech to the Assembly, which was answered on their Part by the Moderator, and a Committee was appointed to draw up a dutiful Answer to His Majesty's most gracious Letter, which being reported on the 6th, was unanimously approv'd; and having been transmitted by the High Commissioner to the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has been presented to His Majesty, who was pleased to receive it very graciously. It is as follows.

May it please your Majesty,

WE humbly beg Leave to acknowledge, with Hearts full of Joy and Thankfulness, the Honour of your Majesty's gracious Letter to us, approving the Behaviour of former Assemblies, and expressing your Majesty's Confidence of our Zeal for the Honour and Glory of God; for the Advancement of true Religion and Piety; the preventing the Growth of Popery, and the suppressing of Vice and Irreligion, Duties to which your Majesty's favourable Expectations from us, do greatly oblige and excite us; and the more, that our Meeting is countenanced by your Majesty's Approbation and Royal Authority.

We account it the great Honour and Happiness of this Church, that the Testimonies of

our Loyalty and Affection to your Majesty's Royal Person and Government, and our steady Adherence to the Succession in your Royal Family, and to the Protestant Interest in General, have been acceptable to your Majesty; and it fills our Hearts with Joy, and quickens our Zeal for your Majesty's Service, that in your great Goodness you are graciously pleased to renew the Assurances of your firm Resolution to maintain this Church in the full Enjoyment of all its just Rights and Privileges, and readily to concur in whatever may tend to the promoting of its Peace and Prosperity, upon which your Royal Assurances we entirely depend: And we should be altogether inexcusable to be wanting on our Part to do all that in us lies for your Majesty's Service and the Welfare of your People, or should we not conduct ourselves with that Spirit of Concord and Brotherly Love which becomes us; and we judge we are bound to watch strictly against all Divisions amongst ourselves, which may tend to disappoint the good Ends for which we are convened, by affording your Majesty's Enemies any Handle to disturb the Happiness and Tranquility of your Majesty's auspicious Administration, which is, under God, our great Safety.

Our Experience of the Earl of Findlater and Seafield's Abilities and Integrity, and of his Concern for the Church and Zeal for your Majesty's Service, renders your Majesty's Choice of him, to represent your Royal Person in the Assembly, most obliging and acceptable to us; and the full Confidence we have of his Diligence and Application in the Discharge of his high and important Trust, obliges us to give him the best Assistance and Encouragement upon our Part, by Unanimity and Dispatch in going through the Affairs proper for our Consideration.

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