

	Two Outriders, His Grace the	
Non Com- missioned Officer of the Guard	{ Lord High Commissioner, and the Countess of Rosslyn } { The Purse-Bearer, and Chaplain. } { in State Carriage and Four. } { The General Commanding, and Staff. }	} Officer of the Guard.

LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS.

The Lord High Commissioner addressed the Assembly as follows:—
 Right Reverend and Right Honorable.
 —By the gracious favour of our Sovereign I greet you for the fifth time as High Commissioner to this venerable Assembly, and I am commanded to address to you once more Her Majesty's gracious intention of maintaining intact throughout this country the Presbyterian faith and form of Church Government, and to present you with her annual donation of £2000 for the purposes of religious education in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. (Applause.) Right Reverend and Right Honorable,—I have further the agreeable duty to perform of assuring you of the constant and intimate interest evinced by the Queen in the Christian and charitable labours of her Scottish clergy, and of the confidence with Her Majesty most justly relies upon their loyal devotion to her royal person and every member of her family. Right Reverend and Right Honorable,—Interested as I too am in the constitution of this Assembly, I cannot fail to notice with regret the absence of some familiar faces and among these one of your fathers, whose life was ever devoted to the services of our Great Master, and whose unblemished and useful career is a bright example to those who will survive. It is pleasing to ask to offer my congratulations, in which I feel sure this Assembly will heartily join, to that learned member and officer whose services in this place have been so highly valued, and whose elevation to the bench has been so well deserved. (Applause.) Right Reverend and Right Honorable,—When we parted a year ago I ventured, in the words of

our great National Church. (Applause.)
 Even now I have no wish to disown that prediction; for before this country can prove ungrateful of the benefits conferred upon it by its National Established Church, it must erase the brightest pages of its own history—(applause)—and exceed the limits allotted to human ingratitude. (Applause.) But it may not be thought too presumptuous in me to allude to some vulnerable places against which attacks may be most easily and most surely directed. Right Reverend and Right Honorable.—The Church of Scotland in these days must, like other institutions of lower or of later origin, be judged not only by its capacity but by its work. The fervent exertions and the self-denying performance of their duties both by the ministers of the Church and many of its adherents make up, doubtless, an aggregate of good that in itself constitutes a rampart of almost impregnable strength. But even this alone is not sufficient. Right Reverend and Right Honorable,—Your superiority must lie in your toleration of the honest opinions of others, even when not wholly able to agree with them—(applause)—in your desire for union with those whose moderation of view and breadth and intelligence of character commands the respect even of those who may differ from them on some matters of detail; and in the careful avoidance of those whose religious shibboleth is a flimsy cloak to conceal a political programme—(applause)—or a thin disguise to obtain those temporal advantages at present beyond their reach. (A laugh.) Right Reverend and Right Honorable.—These are the simple and sufficient weapons which you draw from your Christian armoury to uphold the Church, and those who support the Church, which your fathers bequeathed to you in her integrity: and then, come what may, you will have the satisfaction of feeling that you have