

stand 'shouter to shouter.' (Applause.) They should resist with all their power the efforts that would soon be made—after getting rid of what he must call a very harmless and very respectable establishment, for the Scottish establishment was so—of forming another Confession-gagged and narrow ecclesiasticism, which would be found far more burdensome than the Establishment at present. Should they not unite in resisting any such attack, let it be made by whom or by what party it might, remembering the words of Edmund Burke, 'Whenever tyrants and slaves combine, freemen and honest men should unite?'" (Applause.)

### The Lord High Commissioner.

There is a very universal feeling of regret that Lord Stair, the former Commissioner, has declined to act as her Majesty's representative in the General Assembly this year. In filling the high office of Commissioner, Lord Stair was singularly felicitous, his hospitalities were ample without profusion, and his family, as well as himself, strove to make all who came in contact with them pleased. Moreover, his Lordship was known to take a deep interest in the proceedings of the highest Church court of this portion of her Majesty's dominions, and the members of the Assembly felt that whilst they were discussing the affairs of their Church they had not only an interested listener, but one who felt deeply the gravity of such important questions as those of patronage and education, and who, the Assembly knew, when the time came, would not fail cordially to support the Church of Scotland in the highest quarters with the well-known influence of the House of Stair. Therefore, as Lord High Commissioner, the Earl of Stair's absence from the throne will be greatly regretted—not only as a good and truly generous friend of the Church of Scotland, but for those personal reasons which make the man respected and liked, apart from his public position.

Notwithstanding the regret felt at the absence of the Earl of Stair, the presence of the Earl of Airlie, as her Majesty's representative, has been pleasant to all the well-wishers of the Church. His interest in the Church of Scotland, already singularly marked, will henceforth be quickened by the honour conferred upon him in being sent to Edin-

burgh on so important a charge. To be Commissioned by the Queen to the Church of Scotland is one of the honours highly coveted by Scottish Noblemen.

### Australia.

Through the National Bible Society of Scotland and the British and Foreign Bible Society, large quantities of copies of the Word of God have been sent into the interior of this land during the past year. Supplies have been sent hundreds of miles inland, and Mission work is now being prosecuted with commendable zeal among the Bushmen of Australia.

### New Calabar.

The British Consul at Lagos has entered into a new treaty with the king and chiefs of New Calabar, whereby they have agreed to put an end at once and forever to the horrible practice of cannibalism. This is a fresh triumph on behalf of the cause of Christianity, and is due indirectly to Missionary effort.

### Canary Islands.

The gospel has lately been preached in these Islands by a Roman Catholic priest, a convert to Christianity. Captain McKie, who trades between these Islands and the port of London, takes continuous supplies of the Spanish Evangelization Society's Scriptures and tracts to the Canaries. He says the people are ripe for the truth. How God is thus opening up the way for the spiritual enlightenment of these priest-ridden Islands!

### Persia.

For some time a fearful famine has been raging in this land, and, at the late meeting of the General Assembly of the American Presbyterian Church, it was resolved to put forth some effort to aid the sufferers. Mr. Bruce, a missionary, writing from Ispahan, thus writes concerning the condition of the Jews in that land:—"They live in dens under ground for most part, and to me seem to be all starving. I never saw such pictures of misery, dirt and degradation."