

making. The populations of our future were a revelation to his mind. "I need time," he said, "to meditate, to weigh, yes, and to pray over the bigness of its suggestiveness and the range of its illimitable hope."

"It may be a surprise to some to learn that the Archbishop occupies the highest position in Great Britain next to the crown and the immediate descendants of the King. He takes precedence after the Prince of Wales and his son, and above all dukes, earls, viscounts, above the Lord Chancellor, the Premier and the Secretary of State and all ministers from other countries to the court of St. James. The prerogatives of this office include—besides the magnificent palace and princely provision made for its occupant—the administration of the affairs of state, should any lapse occur in the reigning power. In such a case the Archbishop would be the head of certain dignitaries (including the Lord Chancellor and the Premier) who discharge the functions of royalty in the interregnum."

MEDIATION.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, himself a Scotchman, and knowing the heart of his nation, has offered his services to mediate, if possible, between the remnant of the Free Church of Scotland—now a sect so small that it might almost be called an in-sect—and the United Free Church, whose vast revenues and properties it has seized by what we deem an act of spoliation. If that mediation is to be successful, the spirit of the "Wee Frees," as expressed by the Rev. Murdo McQueen, the Moderator of their church of only twenty-four ministers, must be considerably mollified. Instead of showing sympathy or magnanimity toward the men who seek to heal religious dissensions by Christian union, he describes the professors of the United Free Church as "already beginning to roar and shriek and yell. And why? Is it because the doctrines of the Confession of Faith are undermined, or because the Word of God has been mutilated? No, but because they have lost every penny of their salaries. It is wasting pity," he says, "to extend it to these men who, if they had the power, would crush us under their heel. . . . I do not call the majority a Church," he adds. "It is a political ecclesiastical caucus. It is a Noah's Ark full of clean and unclean animals, with the unclean element predominating." He



HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF
CANTERBURY.

sees in the judgment of the House of Lords "the righteous retribution of the Most High for their unfaithfulness to God. . . . The Free Church has to bless the Lord for His great deliverance this day."

We hope that these hot and hasty words do not express the spirit of the "Wee Kirk." We hope that some way out of this impasse will be found without inflicting a monstrous injustice on those whose Christian zeal and liberality have created the vast ecclesiastical interests and revenues which have been seized by these narrow-minded men. The United Church acted very generously to those refusing to enter it, leaving them in possession of their churches and manse; but the motto of the remnant apparently is "Vae Victis."

METHODIST UNION IN ENGLAND.

At the last Conference in England the question of the union of the various Methodist bodies met with considerable and heated discussion. A resolution was carried by a vote of 311 to 91, which stated that the laws and usages of the Wesleyan and New Connexion Churches were so similar that the Wesleyan Church was prepared to favourably view a union of the two Churches, and had appointed