

RADICAL DEMONSTRATION.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

A MEETING was held in the LINKS, without consulting the Magistrates, on the evening of Thursday the 16th August. Considering the short notice and inconvenience, for it was not a holiday, the assemblage was numerous, of those who attended to welcome and listen to citizens Duncan and Fraser, the well known itinerant Radical Orators. The former is a plain stater of striking and startling facts, the latter indulges somewhat freely in declamation. To aid thus in the diffusion of political knowledge, and open the eyes of a benighted people, is surely praiseworthy and noble, and to attempt a union among the mass, *based on a right principle*, is certainly highly patriotic. They do not seem however, to be very sanguine as to the result of their mission. Much of what they said received our cordial assent, but we did not at all relish their *atheistic slang*, in denouncing priestcraft. This will not suit the people of Great Britain. Their experiment will fail if they do not carry Christian feeling and Christian principle along with them. Let not hypocritical cant, and the pride of caste, whither of the established or dissenting orders drive the poor and oppressed to seek for refreshment from the empty cisterns of infidelity. Moral strength can only be put forth by the enlightened, pious, and consistent. All else is idle and chimerical. The remarks made on the selfishness of Churchmen and Voluntaries, commercial and political factionists and sectarians, were well and forcibly expressed. *Honest*—*risum teneatis*—HONEST Joe Hume, the enemy of *all* corruption, the unwavering patriot, the friend of the people, was depicted in his true colours, and stripped of all his glories, and proved to be but a *trickster humbug*. In showing up political quackery why was Irish Dan omitted? It may have been accidentally. It seems that the "Duke" was able to carry on the concerns of the nation with only forty-five millions, while the Whigs require fifty-one. So much for retrenchment and economy. Our standing army and navy are among the brightest traits we possess as a *Christian* nation. But they belong to the Queen, as well as a thousand other glories—always excepting the NATIONAL debt. The Press was denounced *in toto* as hireling, and lucid reasons given why it could not be independent.

Citizen Fraser enforced the necessity of abstinence from ardent spirits, not that he meant to attach intemperance more to the working classes than to the *respectable* ten pounders, who do the thing in a more private way, but that if the masses would unite on *this single point*, they would produce a crisis within the short space of three months. Have they virtue enough to make the experiment? We shall see. The Whigs, at all events, are on their last legs. Their Jim Crow manoeuvres will no longer sustain them. Out they march. Away with them the drivellers.

SPECTATOR.

Links Gardens, Aug. 20, 1838.

"OBSERVES" by one of our own Devils, who was one of the "fellow-citizens," congregated on the same occasion.

Assembled by tuck of drum, to tune of *Ca Ira*—Tag, Rag, and Bobtail. WILL HAY carrying the flag. Being a bye-job, was considered good enough to report for our *consarn* myself. Cut B—ce and W—n the *reg'lars*. Got a seat on the back of the *Hustings*, an old Stage Coach. Citizens Duncan and Fraser clever fellows—possess good sense and full information, and seem to be *in earnest*. All the Printing Presses in town run down but our own. The bag given to little bespectacled B—e and his fellow-reporter. Me no humbug. The Whigs, along with *lang Sandy*, our M.P., got their crowns well clawed. Mr. Adam's *Knowledge Qualification* only a *quiz*. Would exclude the nobility and some of the ten pounders, such as Councillor Philip, but would not affect us, the people. It is plain the Whigs are become quite torrifed (Toryfied.) What a roasting did Joe Hume get! It was glorious to see the immaculate old *Greek* shown up to a tee. Joe could see the parish-kirks tossed into the sea, and the parsons with them—the ports thrown open—Church and State divorced—hours of factory labour abridged, or any other tub thrown out to amuse or distract—but listen only to his screech in the concert of *Noli me tangere*, when the funded debt is but mentioned. Truly *John Bull*, and *Pat*, (not Dryasdust,) and *Sandy*, (not our M.P.) have been patient drudges and jackasses. But for such a swinish multitude as we—such an awkward unwashed squad of two or three score hundred, to be addressed as *intellectual*, and as possessed of *moral* strength! What a jest. Only to think of myself, for instance, being an *elector*! But I know who should have my vote. None, but our *Doctor*. I wonder he has never been nominated. I am sure he would represent all classes with the utmost impartiality. Well who kens. *Sandy* would take the hint, and retire to his cotton bags and bales of hemp, although he has an eye to them as it is, and watches the market, while he attends to the interests of his constituents. This is killing twa birds wi' ae stane, and denotes more than ordinary talent.

A trifle was added during the orations to the revenue, evincing our loyalty and good feeling, for the stinking fumes from "old cutties" sorely offended our delicate respiratory organs. We were quite *fossicated*. A pledge in favour of Abstinence was given by the whole mass, with one exception, who declined to become a slave. Will done *Citizen Charley*. Will done, *Logan*. But my hawbee candle is in the socket, and I must off to my nest. Good night. Hurra for Universal Suffrage!!!

August 16, 1838.