

plished. The people had a strong hold upon the House of Commons, by means of the representatives, and the House of Commons had a strong hold on the Lords, as they kept the purse. He hoped the House of Commons would attend to the suggestion in the resolution which he now moved, which would soon bring their Lordships to their senses.

Mr. Gerrard of Midstrath, in seconding the motion, was deeply impressed by a sense of his own inadequacy to do justice to the occasion. "Beyond that, Gentlemen, I feel a peculiar pride and pleasure in supporting this resolution, for I consider it by far the most important that will be submitted to you to-day; that, indeed, to which they must all ultimately be referred; the centre, as it were, round which they all revolve,—imparting heat, and light, and animation to the whole. I like it because it is strong, and goes directly to the point. Here is no dallying with terms or with forms—no bending to unmeaning etiquette—no bush-fighting, but a gallant charge—and it goes home to the root of all our grievances. (Cheers.) It has this peculiar merit, Gentlemen, that if the Commons' House of Parliament do but entertain the prayer it involves, it necessarily ensures success to every thing else that we can reasonably demand; and, Gentleman, we demand nothing, we wish for nothing, but the triumph of plain dealing, truth, and freedom, over fraud, falsehood, and arbitrary power—(hear, hear, hear.)—whether that power be assumed by an individual, or by that still more hateful monster—a Tory Oligarchy."

Mr Kilgour.—"A motion has been put into my hands, which, although I regret its necessity, I feel it my duty to propose to the meeting. Public men are public property, and when they commit errors they must be dragged before the public to receive sentence. (Cheers.) You all recollect of the 23d of May last. It was a glorious day for Aberdeen.—We turned out in thousands and tens of thousands to meet one whom we believed to be a sincere and ardent reformer. Ladies waved their handkerchiefs, and men shouted and huzzaed at every new pledge in favour of the Bill and the Ministry—(cheers)—that the hero of the day gave; and, lest the huzzas might be construed into "empty praise," we added likewise the "solid pudding."—

(Laughter.) My friends, I have been within a few feet of that man on every occasion where he addressed the inhabitants of this city. I heard every word he uttered, and I will say, and I am sure the majority of this meeting will bear me out when I say, that if ever there was a man bound solemnly to the Reform Bill and the Ministry, Mr. Horatio Ross, our member, was the man. He owes his seat entirely to these pledges; he had nothing else to recommend him. He told us in one of his early addresses, that as he was a young man, and not acquainted much with politics, he would go to school, and study every question before he gave his vote. I wonder where this young gentleman sought wisdom on Lord Ebrington's motion? Who was his teacher? In this country it was once the practice to send children to an old woman to learn the alphabet. Our worthy member has been studying the elements of political science under some antiquated female. He has dived into a well of knowledge, over which some aged gentlewoman is the priestess. Like our King, whom we will still honour, respect, and reverence, and who will yet be every thing that we could wish him, he has knocked under petticoat government. My friends, will you send your petition to this man. (Loud cries of "No no," "Hume, Hume.") We will send it to one who never deceived us, we will send it to one who never deceived his country, we will send it to Mr. Hume. "Reform," said one who knew the matter well, and suffered in days of old for it, "is a just cause, and it must and will prevail."

Mr Forbes of Echt, in seconding this resolution, deeply deplored the cause of it. He much regretted Mr Ross's backsliding, but he hoped he would be able to explain his conduct and motives to the satisfaction of his real constituents.

Mr Stronach, in proposing the fifth resolution, said that it would have been unnecessary in ordinary circumstances, but assertions were made that such meetings are mere farces,—such assertions were only worthy of certain Peers who had already overstepped the bounds of honour and honesty, and who merited disgrace, consternation, and disappointment. Reform could no longer be withheld with safety to the country, for we must and will have the Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill.