

A N A P P E A L, &c.

SCOTLAND is at present in a state of transition, that is to say, she is about to rise or fall in the scale of nations—To enable her to rise, certain measures are absolutely requisite, such as are pointed out in this publication. A single glance at these measures will convince every intelligent Scotchman, that they can be readily conceded by Parliament, and every Constituency in Scotland should ask its M.P. to demand the concession thereof. Hitherto Scotland has been put off with poor service in Parliament, but she should now seek *Justice*. For this purpose, the year 1851 presents a period peculiarly fit, commencing as it does the second half of a very eventful century—the remainder of which will be still more remarkable if the “signs of the times” are rightly read. It is possible that a dissolution of Parliament may take place in 1851, in which case, the measures now submitted should form questions for the hustings. Without further preface, let us proceed to plead the cause of Scotland.

Give Scotland a Secretary of State. The legislative business of Scotland devolves almost wholly on the Lord Advocate, without whose concurrence no other M.P. can introduce any measure of importance into the House of Commons—at least he cannot carry it. The Lord Advocate is always a practising lawyer, and the present functionary has so much professional employment, that he is quite engrossed by it, for Mr. Rutherford is the *facile princeps* of the Scottish bar. The Russell Government offered him a Judgeship in the Court of Session, but he refused the appointment with a salary of £3000 a-year which, he says, a Lord of Session needs to let him keep a carriage, for Law Lords in Scotland are as proud and showy as their fellows in England. Mr. Rutherford’s career as Lord Advocate has been a failure, but this is not to be wondered at, for a greater