

THE following Speech is published at the request of several gentlemen who heard it delivered, and who think that it contains a clear exposition and satisfactory vindication of the principles adopted at the Birmingham Conference. If it shall be the means of counteracting the groundless alarm with which many of the middle classes regard the prospect of a thorough radical reform, or of allaying the unjust suspicions and jealousies that are prevalent among a few of the leaders of the working-classes, its author's object will be fully accomplished.

Men who rightly read the signs of the times must see that the general breaking up of parties which is now taking place, is only the precursor of a state of things in which the struggle will be not between conformers and expediency-mongers, but between the asserters of political equality on the one hand, and the sticklers for class-supremacy on the other. Each side will have to take its stand on solid ground, and carry out its principles to their just conclusion, unmindful of consequences. There will be no room for a middle party, either of Conservatives or Whigs. The choice will lie between adherence to the divine-right dogmas of the ultra-Tories, or a practical recognition of the theoretical Whig doctrine, that the people are the only legitimate source of power. Does any one require to be told which side must ultimately triumph ?

HERALD OFFICE, ABERDEEN,
24th May, 1842.