

finest type—handsome, distinguished, accomplished, gentle, modest, refined. He never failed to entertain me at his charming country house of Tillypronie, where he was a valued centre, and collected round him, more especially in the days of his able and interesting and interested wife, circles of specially selected guests from the varied strata of artistic, literary, and scientific achievement, as well as from the best social sets. A good Liberal, and indeed Radical by strong and earnest conviction, he was a tower of strength to the Liberal Association of West Aberdeenshire, of which he was chairman for many years, and to me as candidate and member. It always put me in good heart, after one of the excellent dinners for which he was famous, when he drove me down to Tarland, and opened the proceedings with a stirring speech, thus making my calling and election sure in that locality, at all events. This truly admirable man left us at the age of eighty-nine, but his fragrant and inspiring memory will long remain as a priceless remembrance of a pleasant past.

Next comes Burnett of Kemnay, another of our small and diminishing band of Liberal lairds, who held strong and advanced opinions, but who strongly objected to be called a Radical. "The term Liberal is good enough for me," said Gladstone; and my old friend, as well as myself, firmly held to the same view, for one of the greatest sources of weakness in our party is the unnecessary subdivision into small groups, each with an inordinate conviction of its own importance, inclined to urge its own fad to the inconvenience and injury of the body politic, and to press its claims to instant recognition and fulfilment without sufficient regard to general convenience and even safety. This dear, kind old man lived a sort of patriarchal existence in his fine castle, approached by a magnificent beech avenue, and surrounded by numerous and variegated offspring presented