

10. He delivered many eloquent speeches, and wrote many able pamphlets ;

11. That those who dwelt in the valley of the shadow of darkness and slavery might see the glorious light of liberty ; that the oppressed might be set free, and the oppressors brought to disgrace and punishment.

12. The People heard these tidings of the Schoolmaster with great joy, and his words fell like the sound of sweet music on their ears, for they spoke of freedom and happiness.

13. But every day they hated their Rulers the more and more, for the words which the Schoolmaster had said of them ; and they determined to throw off the yoke of these, their tyrants and oppressors.

CHAPTER II.

The unpopularity and retirement of Jacobus from Public Life.

1. WHEN Jacobus saw that the people murmured, and would not be pacified, and that they even threatened to rebel against him, he took counsel amongst his Chiefs and Rulers what it was most expedient for him to do.

2. Now the Chiefs and Rulers were wicked and corrupt men, and haters of the People, (whose livings they had devoured, and whose wives and children they had reduced to beggary) ; but they were afraid of their High Places.

3. So they advised Jacobus to go forth among the People, and speak soothingly to them, that he might quiet their clamours.

4. So Jacobus, at the desire of the Chiefs and Rulers, went forth among the People, and openly declared before them all, " that no man of virtue could sit with honour in the chair in which he there sat, for it was quite rotten."

5. (Now this speech was made just seventeen years before he left that chair.) And then Jacobus told the people that he would fulfil all their wishes, and do whatsoever they wished him to do.

6. But the People would not hearken unto his words, for he had often thus deceived them before ; and they determined to trust him no more, but to put in another in authority over him.

7. So the People took one from amongst themselves, and one whom they loved because he had always been their friend.

8. And the Schoolmaster was much pleased with the choice which the People had made.

9. The name of this man was like unto that which waves before the armies of the People.

10. They then set this man in a high station, far beyond that of Jacobus, who was much displeased and disappointed thereat.

11. And the friends of Jacobus were likewise offended, and waxed wroth in heart at the friends of him whose name is as an ensign to the People. Nevertheless, all their threatenings proved in vain.

12. Now when Jacobus saw that all his past wickedness had come to nought, and that he could work no more evil against the People, inasmuch as the Schoolmaster told them of all things which he had done against them.

13. He resolved to shun the sight of the People, and to depart into the retirement of private life.

14. So he called a meeting of his own friends, and after he had elect-

ed one of them to fill his office, (for Satan only should fill the room of Satan) he spoke to them in this wise :—" This chair I shall never fill again."

15. And when the people heard of this clever speech which he had made, they much extolled its wisdom, and were much rejoiced thereat.

16. Now these are the last public words and acts of Jacobus, ex-Ruler of the Oppressed City.—*Amen.*

A FEW LAST WORDS

REGARDING THE LAST ELECTION OF THE LAST OF THE SELF-ELECTED.

OUR worthy ex-Provost is himself again ! Tired of wearing the linsey woolsey of the lamb, which has neither bettered his own condition, nor rendered him more respectable in the eyes of sensible men, he has resumed his own natural form of the wolf. The reader cannot have forgotten the professions of zeal for Reform which the Provost has, from time to time, made to the inhabitants of this city, when such professions seemed likely to further the ends he had in view. " He was never an enemy to moderate Reform, and would do all in his power to procure rational Reform in the Burghs." Such were his promises ; but let us see what he has really done, now that he has had it in his power to put his professions to the proof :—

On Wednesday the 26th ultimo, by the suffrage of James Hadden, Esq. aided by his influence, direct or indirect, a new Town Council was formed, every one of the members of which was unfavourable to the passing of the Reform Bill, and therefore, unfavourable to all " Reform in the Burghs," or elsewhere. The new Provost is his own brother, a son and a nephew are Merchant Councillors, several of the rest are otherwise related to him ; and the whole of the Venerable Nineteen have given their votes in favour of his being returned to Parliament ! According to common usage and courtesy, Mr. Bruce, Deacon of the Bakers, should have been elected Trade's Councillor ; but as he was considered a *black-nib*, and had given his vote to Mr. Bannerman, Mr. Fraser, shoemaker, who had voted for the Provost, was chosen in his stead !

We deem it almost superfluous to say more than to lay the above facts before our readers. We ourselves never gave him the least credit for his professions of attachment to the cause of Reform ; but as we know that others, from good-nature or ignorance, have been induced to do so, and to give him their votes, we feel bound in justice to truth, and to the cause of Reform, to shew him in his true character. We are sincerely rejoiced, both on account of virtue, and for the people's sake, that he is certain to fail in his attempts at representing this city. It must be galling to an ill-disposed person to fail in his evil designs ; but to both fail and to be discovered in his acts of baseness and treachery, must add wormwood to the bitterness of such feelings ; and, we congratulate the ex-Provost in his enjoyment of such enviable feelings.

If Provost Hadden had called a public meeting of the inhabitants, and in their presence, expressed his opinion that Burgh Reform was necessary both to quiet their clamours, and for the redress of their grievances, promising, at the same time, that he would sanction the election of any new Magistrates whom they might propose to him, he would have gain-