

as the Ministerial plan of reform was divulged, there was not a class in Aberdeen among which it diffused more joy than among the working classes. The Whigs rejoiced at it; the Tories thought it was by far too sweeping; and the latter party said, never mind, the two classes of reformers will go to luggerheads about it; for, though the Whigs accept of it, the Radicals will despise it, and we will make a handle of their divisions to defeat the plan altogether. But by the Radicals coming forward in favour of the plan, the last hope of Toryism was extinguished. The manner in which they manifested their concurrence with its provisions was worthy of the greatest praise. It struck dismay into the anti-reformers, who would have rejoiced if they had withheld their concurrence from it. On the contrary, however, their sentiments entirely coalesced with those of the upper classes who sought reform. A meeting was lately held by them, which, he rejoiced to say, was conducted in the most becoming and praiseworthy manner. At that meeting they passed resolutions expressive of their sense of the complete and satisfactory nature of the reform measure, and sent up an address of thanks to his Majesty for having countenanced and encouraged it. Their opinions might not be regarded by some as of much weight; but he would say, that, although they were not the Corinthian pillars of the state, they had a claim to be regarded as a most important and substantial part of the social structure. Loud applause.) He would conclude by observing, that he was proud to think, that the conduct of that class with which he was more particularly identified, had met the approbation of this enlightened assembly, and he begged leave, in the name of the operatives, to return his thanks to the honourable baronet who had craved a bumper in their behalf, and to the meeting, for the compliment which had been conferred upon them. (Loud applause.)

Mr. John Davidson would also rise to return thanks for the toast which had been drunk. He was not an honourable, a sir, an esquire, a provost, a baillie, or a town-clerk, all of whom now graced this festive board; but, in the language of the popular song which had lately been sung—"A man's a man for a' that." It was true that he could not enlarge so eloquently as had been done by a preceding speaker (Mr. Cameron of Banff) on the subject of Reform,—but he had lifted his voice on that subject as his King required it, and his country demanded it; and he conceived it but right that all, from the peasant to the peer, should lift their united voice of approval, forming, as it were, a mighty tide of loyalty around the throne of William IV.—a tide sounding thus, "Thanks to our patriot King for dissolving Parliament, and casting himself on