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BANFF, 9th October, 1835.

GENTLEMEN,

You have passed a resolution, which involving, as it does, a question of public right is not only liable to, but highly worthy of public discussion, and which, though it may perhaps have been intended to affect me privately, I conceive I am at full liberty to treat in a public manner. The resolution to which I allude is,—“That the Town Clerk, and Town Chamberlain, and all other salaried servants of the Council, shall in future abstain from interfering politically, directly or indirectly, in the Elections either for the County or Burghs.” This resolution embraces more than meets the eye at first, and was, I conceive, brought forward and passed for a purpose which would not be discovered by a stranger, and may be followed by consequences which he would never anticipate. It shall now be my object to lay these before the public, and in doing so I propose to consider, first, the nature of the duties and appointments of the officers struck at in the resolution; second, the nature of the body by whom it was passed; third, the intentions with which it was brought forward; fourth, its probable effects, as well public as private; and I shall conclude with a few remarks on the spirit and liberality of the resolution.

First, then, you are aware that my appointment is, and in the present state of the law, necessarily must be, *ad vitam aut culpam*, which it may perhaps be necessary to explain, is for life, or until I commit any fault for which I can be dismissed; and you are also