

country, so far as I know, ever endeavoured to change “the relative position of the two countries;” nor have they yet attempted, by any legislative enactment, to make any change on the climate. We all know that the differences between the laws and feudal tenures of Scotland and England have arisen from quite different sources. However, Gentlemen, I grant you that “the relative position of the two countries, in respect of soil, climate and capital,” is necessarily as much entitled to make differences in laws, and to enjoy the elective franchise, as—a sheep-skin.

I have no objections to offer to the other two resolutions.

I have now, Gentlemen, gone over the whole of your resolutions, and I have little doubt but you will excuse me the trouble of a recapitulation.

Your meeting was numerous. There were present many who, I suspect, had never been seen at any previous meeting. The reasons which induced you to assemble in such numbers did, doubtless, seem important to yourselves, otherwise I can with difficulty account for the fact of so many advocates and others from Edinburgh, so many factors from the country, having, at considerable expense to themselves, attended. Their zeal for the good of their country was amazing. As Major Hay remarked, in his speech, in what may have appeared to some to be a happy strain of irony, but which some of the meeting seemed to take as a well-meant compliment, “It was honourable to themselves to see so many gentlemen come from a distance, to give their conscientious vote on this occasion.”