



DIARY,

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THE writers in the *Aberdeen Observer* are very unlucky when they enter upon politics. The *Aberdeen Censor* was their forte; they should have contented themselves with that humble walk in literature. In their paper of the 29th ult. they say, under the head *Mentor*, "Mr Bannerman belonged to the Town Council, and while in office, he never uttered a word against the system; but he and others made an attempt to turn out Provost Hadden and his party, in which they failed."

The *Observer* glories in this failure of Mr Bannerman's; but do the people sympathise with him in these feelings? We should think not. If he had succeeded in his patriotic wishes, we should then, like some other burghs in a similar situation, have had the Town Council at our head in our struggle for Parliamentary Reform; and he would most probably have made exposés of the nakedness of the land, as have been done in other burghs, which we could name. In one of the latter, for example, it was discovered that some whole families of burgesses' children were receiving from £20 to £30 each yearly, when, at the same time, they were paying aged burgesses the pitiful sum of £4 or £5 to support themselves, and perhaps a numerous family.

In Dundee, "the turning out" system, or cleaning the Augean stable of ancient grievances, has been very successfully practised, and now the Town Council go hand in hand with the inhabitants in their demands for Parliamentary Reform, and have even preceded them in their endeavours to obtain Burgh Reform. In Forfar, too, this system has been very successful. For a long time its income was all absorbed by the Town Council, but after these had been expelled, the new Town Council, consisting of a few humble weavers,