

THE SPEECHES ON THE LINKS.

PLATFORM A.

Mr. Oswald Prosser, president of the Aberdeen Liberal Association, was chairman, and among those beside him on the platform, were Professor Donaldson, Ex-Provost Esslemont, Dr. Farquharson, M.P., Councillor Gill, Dr. Angus Fraser, Mr. A. S. Cook, Mr. James Crombie, Mr. Wilken, Waterside of Forbes, and members of the Council of the Liberal Association.

Mr. Prosser said the Liberals of this district were determined that, so far as they were concerned, neither their rights and privileges, nor the rights and privileges of their fellow-men would be trampled upon. (Cheers.) This was not the first time that the action of the House of Peers had called thousands of people together on the Links of Aberdeen. (Cheers.) They could not forget the memorable events of 1832, and they could not doubt that the success which followed the demonstration of half a century ago would follow the demonstration of that day (Cheers.) It was a happy omen that they had among their ranks that day so many old reformers, who in 1832 carried the banner of political liberty, and it was the business of the people of the present day to do battle with the same earnest and resolute spirit that ensured the success of 1832. Of their case they had no need to be ashamed, for their cause was that of equal justice and equal rights to all. (Cheers.) They maintained this first principle of political justice that every citizen whether known to fame or not, whatever his social rank or vocation, was entitled to share in the government of the nation. (Cheers.) Besides, they held that the elasticity of the constitution was equal to the admission of two millions of the people to the franchise, and that when these people were admitted the pulse of the Government of the nation would flow more quickly and more intensely, and that to the nation's good. (Cheers.) The House of Lords was beginning to write its death warrant, and if it was not stopped in its progress, that death warrant would soon be issued. (Cheers.) But if the House of Lords was to be retained—he did not say it was to be retained—(cheers)—it must be retained as an assembly representative of the people, and answering to the people's voice. (Cheers.)

Ex-Provost Esslemont moved the resolution, and argued the demand of the people was reasonable, fair, and right. (Cheers.) They had met that day to tell Lord Salisbury that they were not to stand his humbug any longer—(cheers and laughter)—and he was there further to charge the House of Lords with being unpatriotic, and not being good statesmen, and with not being honest men. (Cheers.) He had no fear of the people's cause, and he believed they would within a reasonable time have the House of Lords rectified. ("No, no," and shouts "Abolish it," and cheers.) One thing was certain that they must now, once and for all, have done with hereditary legislation. (Cheers.)

Professor Donaldson seconded the resolution. Dr. Donaldson held that there was no reason why the decree of the House of Commons should not at once become the law of the nation, and said that the cause of the people, being the cause of reason and right, was sure to overturn every foe, and ultimately to be crowned with the joyous laurels of victory. (Cheers.)

Mr. Robert Marshall, an unenfranchised elector, and Mr. Walker, farmer, Bithnie, vigorously supported the resolution.

The resolution was afterwards put to the meeting and enthusiastically adopted.