

THE

REFORM DEMONSTRATION

IN ABERDEEN.

SATURDAY, 16TH AUGUST, 1884.

The Reform demonstration of Saturday was in every respect an unqualified success. Unprecedented in point of numbers, both as regards those who took part in the procession from the Reclaimed Ground at the Inches to the Broadhill and the Links, and the immense masses of sympathetic spectators who lined the route closely on either side along its whole length of more than a mile, or gathered in thousands about the platforms where the speaking took place, the utmost order prevailed throughout; and from the start of the procession till the departure of the last of the special evening trains, carrying the numerous contingents of country reformers to their homes, not a single unpleasant incident occurred to detract from the character of the proceedings, or in any way lessen their effect. It is but the barest justice to say that in shaping the general arrangements which have led to a result so gratifying, the credit is due mainly to Mr David Littlejohn, advocate, the respected Secretary of the Liberal Association, upon whom a large part of the labour and responsibility involved in communicating with the various country districts, as well as in adjusting details in the city in co-operation with a body of willing coadjutors, fell; and who, in conjunction with Mr. A. S. Cook, the Hon. Treasurer, whose services were of the highest value, carried through the work not only most efficiently, but with a carefulness and a courtesy toward all con-

cerned that could not have been exceeded. To Dr Maitland Moir, who undertook the duty, practically, of organising the Procession, as well as of marshalling and starting the various contingents, the highest credit is due for the thoroughly effective style in which the arduous task was accomplished, without the slightest hitch or confusion. The Trades Council, as a body, did their part heartily and well—the president, Mr Thompson, and the secretary, Mr Annand, both entering into the business with intelligence and spirit; and not only so, but the various crafts in the admirable way in which they turned out, bearing appropriate trade insignia and characteristic and telling emblems and mottoes, were worthy of the highest praise. As regards the suburban and county contingents, again, their mere presence in such numbers would have been ample proof of their earnestness and intelligent interest in the cause of political justice and popular right, but even as regards the very effective and picturesque style in which they gave ocular evidence of their sentiments we should not have been disposed to place them second to any other section in the procession. It only remains to add that the police arrangements, under Superintendent Wyness and his lieutenants, were of a thoroughly satisfactory character, and admirably carried out.