

and obey—(cheers). It is the genius of our Constitution that high and low, master and servant, peer and peasant, should work together for the common good—(hear, hear). We do not despise a true patent of nobility. We will have in the service of the State every man who can prove his worth. But—

The rank is but the guinea stamp,
The man's the gold for a' that.

—(loud cheers). We remit then to our representatives to complete the democracy—(cheers). We charge them to search out the significance of these gatherings of the people, and to apply themselves to such an adjustment of the Constitution as shall secure that worth and not the accident of birth or title, or possessions shall constitute the only right to guide the destinies of the country—(loud cheers).

Mr John Park, chief magistrate, Fraserburgh, who was very cordially received, moved the adoption of the resolution. In the course of his remarks he said that the expression of opinion of this great demonstration in Aberdeen excelled anything that had ever been known in this part of the country before. Not even in 1832, he expected, had the demonstration been nearly equal to what this was. He thought such a procession was the greatest and grandest expression a people could give. Such expression required no backing up by speeches and resolutions, but still they must pass through the form, so a resolution had been placed in his hands to move. He then, amid enthusiastic cheering and cries of "Abolish the House of Lords," read the resolution, and proceeded to say he needed hardly say that the resolution met exactly with their views—(cheers). It expressed them, he believed, fully but, very moderately. There was nothing extraordinary in it, and he had no doubt, that it would be carried by acclamation by that meeting—(cheers, and hear, hear). They would observe, however, that it touched upon several distinct points, each of which might require attention. The Franchise Bill, as it said, was promoted to provide for the extension to counties of the household suffrage enjoyed by burghs, and looked upon as a great boon not only to those unfranchised, but to the country at large. Seeing that by its provisions a great number of capable and intelligent electors would be put in the electoral roll, men who now had no vote, but would when the bill became law, be in a position to unite with their fellow countrymen in the choice of a representative in Parliament and thereby to give expression of their views as to the good government of the country, and to promote what they might believe to be for the national welfare, what could they do more than stand shoulder to shoulder for the Franchise Bill?—(cheers and hear, hear.) Let Scotchmen be what their fathers were, stern, resolute, firm, and hold to their views manfully, and there was no question, as the chairman had said, that victory would attend them—(cheers). Their efforts would be met with success, and the country would prosper under a change in the House of Lords—(cheers and hear, hear). Some said—Abolish the House of Lords—(cheers, hear, hear, and "Down with it"). Some said—Give the House of Lords another chance—"No, no"). For his part, he said select the good men in it—and there were not a few such—and

secure their intelligence, their philanthropy, their ability, their noble souls, for the good of the country—(cheers and a voice—"They are a very small section")—and let the rest go home—(laughter). There was no question that a great deal of evil and mischief had been done by the Lord Salisbury class through their ignorance of the real position, the real character of the people; and it was necessary that that class should come more in contact with the people to understand their needs, and be able to act so as to ameliorate the condition of the people. If the House of Lords still refused to pass the Franchise Bill, then, he said, abolish it—(cheers). Let them bear the consequences of their own act. The first step taken towards the abolition of the House of Lords was by Lord Salisbury and those who followed him. They themselves were at the root of the abolition cry, and not the people. He hoped such circumstances would occur as would bring about a satisfactory arrangement, so that the Government of the country would be enabled to go on without obstruction and without the interference to which they had been subjected of late—(cheers). He had to say, in sitting down, that he hoped—and he was sure, as the chairman had said—that victory would in the end attend their efforts—(loud cheering).

Mr William Robertson, farm overseer, Mill of Birness, Ellon, seconded the resolution. It was with mixed feelings of pleasure and regret that he looked upon that meeting—a feeling of regret that the House of Lords, by their action, should have been the means of calling them together that day to protest against the action of the Lords, and a feeling of pleasure at seeing so many of the class to which he belonged taking an interest in the extension of the franchise. He believed the time had now come in this great country when at least 2,000,000 could be safely added to the electoral roll; who would discharge the duties of that electorate as intelligently and as faithfully as even Lord Salisbury—(laughter and groans). Lord Salisbury appeared to believe that the great strength of the Constitution of Great Britain consisted in the fewness of its supporters. He (the speaker) believed the Constitution would be as well supported by the whole body of the people (cheers, hear, hear, and a Voice—"Yes, to a man"). Lord Salisbury, he observed, lately went down to Manchester, and there made a speech of equal length and thickness—(a Voice—"It was not very thick")—and he tried to make it so dense that the people could not understand it. Lord Salisbury posed as the champion of the people's rights and a true representative of the people. That Mr Robertson denied. He pointed out that the House of Lords was not the representative of the people, but of a few. As a farm-servant, he said that the majority of them would never rest satisfied until they were placed on the electoral roll and had a right to exercise a vote—(cheers and hear, hear, and a Voice—"Put Lord Salisbury into a botby for a month"—great laughter). He believed in Aberdeen there was what was called a Conservative Working Men's Association—(laughter). He knew nothing that could induce a working man to become a Conservative—(cheers, and a Voice—"They are all dead this week"—laughter). The working men of this country