

and the same spirit was in Lord Salisbury yet—(loud cheers). The demonstration would tell its tale. It would be one among many. It would tell upon the House of Lords, and it would strengthen the hands of the good old man at the head of the House of Commons—(cheers). Mr Gladstone and his colleagues had done nobly and well. This demonstration would strengthen his hands, and with the other demonstrations held in England and Scotland would be the means of reforming the House of Lords—(cheers). To support the resolution gave him extreme gratification and pleasure, and

Let us pray that come it may,  
As come it will for a' that,  
That man to man the world ower,  
Shall brothers be for a' that.

—(loud cheers).

Mr James Mcintosh, iron shipbuilder, also spoke in support of the resolution. As a working man he was not able to talk upon politics, but he was able to judge what belonged to him as a unit in the nation, and what he inherited by his very birth—and that was to have the power to regulate the affairs of the country, for which he had, as a working man to pay—(cheers). There were many ways he said in which the Lords had striven to prevent the working classes of this country from enjoying that privilege—(cheers). The rejection of the Franchise Bill by the House of Lords had been stated by Lord Salisbury as not because they did not love the franchise, but because they wanted redistribution of seats to go along with it—("Oh"). Well, in his opinion, had the House of Commons introduced—or had Mr Gladstone—(cheers)—introduced—along with the Franchise Bill a bill for the redistribution of seats, the Tories would have at once said—"It is too comprehensive. We cannot go on with it this session"—(cheers). Because they did not get a Redistribution Bill the majority in the House of Lords had made that an excuse for rejecting the Franchise Bill—(cheers). He had no doubt that by this time Lord Salisbury, notwithstanding all his pretences, was very sorry indeed that he did not go along with the minority in the House of Lords. The House of Lords, in his opinion, was a national ornament—(laughter)—which the country could well afford to dispense with—(cheers)—because not only, as he had already pointed out, was it exceedingly costly, but its efforts were not directed to secure the wellbeing of the large majority of the people, but to maintain the supreme position of its own class—(cheers). But the people had now arrived at the conclusion that class legislation could not any longer be tolerated—(renewed cheers). He hoped the working men of Aberdeen would work earnestly in this great movement. They had come there not to gain a privilege directly for themselves, but to work for those people who had not the privilege of a vote—men who had the same aspirations as they had, and who were equally well able to exercise their rights. They had come to demand for these people their rights—their rights as men—(loud cheers).

Mr James Hunter, Vice-President of the Trades Council, next spoke. The action of the House of Lords simply meant that some two millions of people were to be deprived of the

right that those who lived in Parliamentary burghs enjoyed—he meant the right to vote—(cheers). Their motto as united trades had ever been "Men, assist thy fellows." That day they held out the right hand of fellowship to their less-favoured brethren in the county, and demanded as their right the extension of the franchise—(cheers). Ever since the Reform Act of 1832 there had always been conflicts between the Commons and the Lords, and many of the most valuable reforms of our country had been rejected by that irresponsible assembly. The very character of such an assembly was sure to produce such results, for they found that possessors of privilege were invariably Conservative, and the House of Lords was the most Conservative institution in the kingdom—(cheers). Conservative working-men—if there were such—(laughter)—often raised the cry that imperfect and incomplete measures were introduced by Liberal Governments, but he held that the working-classes were Liberal in the main—(cheers)—and it must never be forgotten that the present Government was handicapped, knowing that all measures of reform had to be cut down and shaped to pass a Conservative House of Lords—(cheers). The House of Lords was the great stumbling-block in the way of useful legislation for the industrial classes, and it remained for the people to insist upon the overthrow of that privileged and selfish class who represented nobody but themselves, and who fancied that all mankind beside were born simply to do their bidding—(cheers).

Mr J. W. Annand, Secretary of the Trades Council, followed. He had been delighted to see such a grand sight; it was one of the grandest picnics he had ever seen—(laughter)—and he thought it would have done Lord Salisbury's heart good to have seen such a demonstration—(cheers, and a Voice—"He hasna a hert"). He (the speaker) questioned if he had a heart—(laughter). As a working man he was thankful for the action Lord Salisbury had taken with regard to the Franchise Bill, and for this reason, that the attention of the country had been directed to the House of Lords and to its Constitution—(cheers). This was a very serious question for the people, because the action of Lord Salisbury had in effect overturned the whole legislation of the past session. It was not the loss of the Franchise Bill only they had to complain of, but it was the loss of a great many useful measures. The Shipping Bill had been lost, and they had also lost the London Government Bill, and many other measures had also been thrown out by the House of Commons simply because Lord Salisbury said it must be so. The resolution submitted was not so strong as he would have liked—(cheers). He would go in for the total abolition of the House of Lords—(great cheering). For the life of him he could not see the use of the House of Lords. That House was simply useless, and the sooner the people took up the question and dealt with it thoroughly the better it would be for the country—(loud cheers).

Mr James Geddes, driller and outter, said Lord Salisbury had entirely outwitted himself and those that followed him—(cheers). Lord Salisbury was afraid to give ploughmen the vote, and the reason was very obvious. Lord Salisbury was afraid that