

THE SUTHERLAND DEMOCRACY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649307883

The Sutherland Democracy by Daniel William Kemp

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

DANIEL WILLIAM KEMP

**THE SUTHERLAND
DEMOCRACY**

THE
SUTHERLAND
DEMOCRACY

BY
DANIEL WILLIAM KEMP,

Editor of

BISHOP FOCCKE'S TOURS IN SCOTLAND;
BISHOP FOCCKE'S TOUR THROUGH SUTHERLAND AND CAITHNESS;
NOTES ON EARLY IRON-SMELTING IN SUTHERLAND;
ETC. ETC.

"I will venture to say that in the whole of this island there exists not a more intelligent population connected with the labouring and industrial interests, than the population of the County of Sutherland."—*Speech in Parliament*, by the Right Hon. W. E. GLADSTONE, 1868.

EDINBURGH:
NORMAN MACLEOD, 7 NORTH BANK STREET.
1890.

✓ Br 9713.3



Lane fund

P R E F A C E.

THIS paper is published at the request of Members of the Edinburgh Sutherland Association, before whom I had the pleasure of reading it on the 7th instant.

Although it may be unnecessary, I think it right to say that the Association is in no way committed to the views therein expressed.

D. WILLIAM KEMP.

TRINITY, EDINBURGH,
28th February 1890.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Preface,	5
Old qualifications of Voters in Sutherland,	11
Payment of Members of Parliament,	11
Lord Ronald Gower's book— <i>My Reminiscences</i> ,	12, 30
Letter by Lord Palmerston,	13
Sir David Dundas, M.P. for Sutherland, resigns,	14
Lord Ronald Gower's Canvas of the Constituency,	15
" Election,	17
" Introduction into House of Commons,	17
Representation of the People (Scotland) Bill, 1868,	17
Debate in Parliament on Mr. Samuel Laing's attack on the representation of Sutherland,	18
Speech by Lord Ronald Gower,	20
" Mr. E. H. J. Craufurd,	21
" The Right Hon. H. J. Raillie,	22
" The Right Hon. E. P. Bouverie,	22
" Major C. L. Cumming-Bruce,	23
" The Right Hon. R. Horsman,	24
" The Right Hon. B. Disraeli,	24
" The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone,	24
" Sir W. Stirling-Maxwell,	27
" Mr. Serjeant S. Gasslee,	28
" Lord Elcho,	29
" Mr. Duncan M'Laren,	29
Vote favourable to Sutherland,	30
Lord Ronald Gower's Reminiscences of the Debate,	30
Statistics of Population versus Electorate,	35

	PAGE
Lord Ronald Gower resigns, 1874,	36
Marquis of Stafford elected, 1874,	37
Murmurings of the Unenfranchised,	37
Pioneers of Land Reform,	37
Mr. Hugh Mackay, Greenock,	37
Mr. John Mackay, C.E., Hereford,	38
Mr. Angus Sutherland's Speech at Helmsdale, 1882,	38
Formation of the Sutherlandshire Association,	39
Mr. John Macleod, Gartymore, Secretary of the Sutherlandshire Association,	39
Excitement over Franchise Bill, 1884,	40
Great Political Demonstrations in Sutherland,	41
Mr. Angus Sutherland and Golspic Demonstration,	41
Mr. George Adams, Brora, and Golspic Demonstration,	41
Sutherland seat again threatened, 1885,	42
Meeting of Sutherland and Caithness people in Edinburgh,	42
Mr. T. R. Buchanan, M.P. for Edinburgh, espouses the case of Sutherland,	42
First Voters' Roll of the Sutherland Democracy,	44
Last Voters' Roll of the Sutherland Feudocracy,	45
Analysis of the principal Surnames in Voters' Rolls,	43, 46
Rev. Donald Sage's <i>Memorabilia Domestica</i> ,	46
Mr. Gordon of Embo's Contest of the County,	46
Names of Mr. Gordon's Supporters,	46
Wadsetter's Opposition offends the Sutherland Family,	46
Election of Lord Stafford, 1885,	47
„ Mr. Angus Sutherland, 1886,	49
Prospects of a Contest in Sutherland at next General Election,	49
Election of First County Council,	50

THE
SUTHERLAND DEMOCRACY.

WHEN glancing recently through the first Voters' Roll of the Sutherland Democracy, it occurred to me that it might be both interesting and profitable to collate a few facts relating to the representation of the County, and to classify the principal clan-names comprised in the electorate.

The extension of the parliamentary franchise to counties by the Act of 1884 was a measure of far-reaching political import to the country generally, but in its immediate effect on the Highland counties it was nothing short of an electoral revolution, and in no county was this more pronounced than in Sutherland.

To estimate aright this awakening to political power we must go back to 1872, when the Education Act put the management of the Schools into the hands of the people. That measure was an undoubted blessing to the more populous towns