

quence of the opposition made by the Lords to many bills sent up to them from the Commons, legislation is at a standstill ; and that the alteration proposed is necessary to harmonize the two branches. In the first place, as the Lords have an equal right with the Commons to exercise an independent opinion, who shall say which is wrong in the collision that has taken place between them ? In the next place, two chambers, perfectly independent on each other, as the Lords and Commons *now* are, and elected in a different manner and upon different principles, will very probably hold different opinions upon important subjects, such as have engaged the attention of Parliament since the passing of the Reform Bill. Some collision is therefore natural, and was to be expected. But this difference of opinion and want of harmony, were still more to be expected from the annoyance and disappointment of the Lords at losing that influence in directing the votes and proceedings of the Commons, which they possessed before the Reform bill was passed. These feelings are, from their nature, temporary, and harmony will doubtless at no distant period be restored to the proceedings of the Legislature.

What, however, cannot be denied, as the necessary result of that independence on each other, which was the first fruit of the Reform Bill, is, that as real a revolution in the constitution has taken place as was brought about in 1688. Until that period, the Crown had the predominance ; since that period and until the passing of the Reform Bill, the Lords commanded a majority in the Commons House, and it is only since that all-important bill became the law of the land, that a new and untried era has opened for the