

*“From the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Councils, and Associates of the ‘Social Anti-Climax League’ of the People of England, to their fellow-citizen, Albert Augustus Adolphus Loftus Cicely Chester Bantam, commonly called Lord Bantam, and now termed Earl of Ffowlsmere.”*

It stated that as brethren of one “whom we hold in high regard, we heartily express our sympathies with you in the severe and sudden family affliction which has befallen you ; and we trust that you will be sustained in it by that pure and high philosophy, which, recognizing in every event the movement of the inevitable, rests in the supreme dignity of resignation.”

It proceeded to congratulate him on the attainment of a position which would enable him to carry out practically the principles he had so nobly professed. It referred to the propositions of the Bellowsby Charter. It reminded him that he had declared his adhesion to them, and concluded thus :

*“We, therefore, your brother-citizens and associates in the League, relying on your honesty and sincerity, invite and pray you to take the lead in the new, great social movement for the transfiguration of Labor and the regeneration of Society.”*

The Earl received the address with some embarrassment. Immediately facing him was the sturdy trunk and leonine head of the old shoemaker, and below his late associates in