

THE LATE MR ARCHIBALD MACDONALD.

THIS old citizen, who has been little known for many years, but who was in his day an active man in his sphere of life, has gone the way of all living. Mr Macdonald was possessed of much ingenuity and considerable mental vigour. At one time he was entirely devoted to politics, at another to chemical experiments and mechanical inventions, from neither of which unfortunately he reaped much profit. Latterly during his enforced leisure he was chiefly occupied with a search after the unclaimed fortune of a long deceased relative, whose money is in the hands of the Directors of the Old East India Company, and to which, we believe Mr Macdonald might have at one time, before the death of old friends, made good his claims, had he had the means. Mr Macdonald was born in Aberdeen in the year 1796, and was consequently at his death aged seventy-seven years. His father was a native of Lochaber, and his mother belonged to Badenech. In his youth he learned the trade of flaxdresser with Messrs Leys, Masson, & Co. Being in somewhat delicate health, he afterwards leased a croft, near Little Ythsie in Buchan, where he lived for some sixteen years. Returning to Aberdeen he became intimately connected with the Chartist movement, and was one of its most prominent and able supporters, from the time the agitation began until its close. On the occasion of Mr Fergus O'Connor's first visit to Aberdeen, Mr Macdonald was one of a deputation appointed to meet him. On the following day a great meeting was held on the Broadhill, to hear Mr. O'Connor, in which Mr. Macdonald also took part. He was delegated to represent the Chartists of Aberdeen, at a Chartist Convention in England. In 1841 he was put forward to contest the Elgin Burghs against Sir Andrew Leith Hay and Mr. Duff of Haddo. At the nomination he delivered a speech of two hours and a-half length. On a show of hands being taken, the majority was declared to be for Mr. Macdonald. A poll being demanded for the other candidates he, however, declined to go further in the contest.