

I drew up this dark, this poisoned curtain, I have seen those whose high offices and position should have impressed them with feelings of propriety, in communion with this person, and for what? For the ostensible purpose of writing me down, and writing me out of the Colony. But, Gentlemen, this *Constitutionalist* of their setting up soon died a natural death, or rather in this case, I might say \* \* \* \* \* and, like the noted delegation, it actually accomplished nothing; for I was upheld and supported by that high and ruling power for whose protection I am and ever will be grateful. Again, at one time I was charged with interfering at Elections, and at another with not interfering at Elections. How I am to answer these contrarieties, passes my comprehension; better let them pass, therefore, for as much as they are worth. But how any persons could put forth such a mass of incongruous matter, is totally inexplicable. I can only suppose it to be the result of chance. Some one must have taken pen in hand and struck out these absurdities which have been lauded by the set, and pronounced to be perfect wisdom.

What can be more absurd than that part which relates to the Executive Council. Only search the printed records, and there you will find matter to disprove this charge.—I have just been informed that the Steamer is waiting for me; I must, therefore, be brief, and this document I will at once commit to its proper place (here His Excellency cast it into the fire.) That document met with no better fate at the hands of the Home Government than did a former one, notwithstanding the three persons who were deputed to back the composition. Other inventions were also resorted to, for the purpose of villifying my character during my absence on Her Majesty's Service at Montreal: Some affected to have heard that I should not return to the Island—others said I dare not, as I was in debt £400 to one, £600 to another, and I had fled to the backwoods of the United States. [Here D. Reddin, Esq., said that he had heard it publicly stated, that His Excellency owed £4000; and could not, therefore, safely leave the Government.—Mr. Reddin apologised for the interruption.] I doubt not, gentlemen, that after all their reports, it will be gratifying to you to be informed that all just claims against me are discharged; and what is, I believe, rather a novelty on this Island (upon similar occasions), they have been discharged with my own money. My representation of the state of affairs in this Colony will, I have reason to expect, be followed by a strict investigation, and those who are implicated must not lay the flattering unction to their souls, "that a change of Governors will stifle it."

It has been delayed because my wish was, if possible, to obtain the assistance of totally uninterested parties out of the Island; but it must and will be instituted, and I tell those who fear change here, that it will come upon them. Responsible Government will be established here. I feel morally certain the past management of the Island cries aloud for it—and why should it not? Is it not the system of the Home Government? and it is only those who are interested in keeping things as they are who tell you that the Island is not yet forward enough for its adoption. Take no heed to such persons—you know it is a libel on the Colony. An entire change of system cannot be perfected at once: if unfit persons are placed in the Council the discovery will soon be made, and they will be obliged to give way to others better qualified. How often has this occurred with the Ministry at Home? Again and again has it been compelled to respect the popular voice, as expressed by its representatives, and make way for others. Gentlemen, the reforms I have endeavoured to introduce here, must hereafter be sustained by the fostering care of those who approve of my views, and such are always to be found in a Responsible and Constitutional Government. I extremely regret that time will not permit me to enter fully into all the reforms that have engaged my attention—particularly those which put a period to the system of jobbing in Warrants with the public money; but I am again reminded that time will not suffice to enter into all these particulars. Gentlemen, it is you—it is the Members of the Assembly—of the Legislative and Executive Councils, who must not slumber at your posts. Do not (though I am sure I need not exhort you) pause in the good work I have begun, or my labour will be in vain. Regard not the opposition of a few snivelling officials, who will, no doubt, use every effort to stop the torrent that is

rushing down upon them. Doubt not your strength, or the means at your disposal; and then we shall see my brightest hopes realized—the establishment of a just and good Government for the people of this Island. Gentlemen, I congratulate you on the flourishing state of the Revenue. I have brought about a better system of keeping the Public Accounts, and I see no unfairness in attributing to this circumstance some part of the considerable increase which has occurred; indeed, I knew not how to account for it otherwise, as there has been no sufficient improvement in commerce to account for this, and our harvests have not been abundant. The time has now arrived for me to perform the most painful part of my duty this day—that of wishing you farewell. Gentlemen, persevere in the reforms I have commenced: it will be a source of gratification to yourselves and equally so to me. Once more, Gentlemen, farewell. I can only repeat that which I said in beginning—that I find it far more easy to face my enemies, than to part with my friends. Gentlemen, I wish you all happiness and success.

Mr. HENSLEY then spoke as follows:—

I have now only to tender to your Excellency, in the name of all present, our hearty and affectionate farewell. In which is to be understood all the amplifications of the deepest regard and respect, which the tongue of the most eloquent might be supposed to utter upon such an occasion; but which neither our time nor our feelings will permit us at present to express. We can assure your Excellency that we shall turn with grateful remembrance to the time when your Excellency became the head and front of this good cause, and we feel certain that you will often reflect with pleasure upon the benefits which your ability and fortitude has prepared for the population of this Island.

Just as the Company were about to leave the room,

The Hon. WILLIAM SWABEY addressed them, and in one of the most eloquent and impressive speeches we have ever heard him deliver, gave utterance to his feelings of regret at the departure of his distinguished public and private friend. The following are, as nearly as we can recollect, the terms in which he spoke:

Gentlemen—Neither the intensity of my own feelings nor the time we have left allows of my entering as I should wish, into a justification of Sir Henry's administration; but I cannot in silence and without saying a few words suffer an occasion like this to pass by, for I have to deplore the public loss as well as that of a sincere, tried and valued friend: Gentlemen—so long as it shall be true that "an honest man is the noblest work of God"—so long as high and honorable feelings—so long as an intrepid courage in pursuing a noble object can entitle a man to an honorable place in public and private recollection—so long will Sir Henry Vere Huntley have a place in ours. [The Hon. Gentleman then addressing himself to Sir Henry, said]—Sir, you need be under no apprehension that when you are gone, the plans which you have begun for the public welfare, will want warm supporters to carry them out, for I see around you a glorious band of reformers, pledged to their execution, and the popular voice is with us. Time does not admit of such a vindication of your measures as I could wish, and I can only add, that in my place in the Legislature, in public or in private, in me they will never want an advocate. When they do, then, Sir, you will be at liberty to blot me out from your memory, and may you forget my name, for from that task I will never shrink.

After which—

The Hon. GEORGE COLES then came forward, and with much warmth and feeling, begged to tender to His Excellency, not only for himself, but for the District which he had the honour to represent in Parliament, being the most extensive in the Island—his own and his constituents' best wishes for His Excellency's future welfare and prosperity. The Hon. Gentleman regretted that shortness of time prevented his giving expression to his feelings more fully on that occasion.

His Excellency and his friends then left the Hotel—many regretting that further time was not allowed, as His Excellency was obliged to leave unspoken many observations he intended to make, and as some other gentlemen were prevented from expressing their sentiments on the occasion. In front of the Hotel a large number of people had gathered to accompany Sir Henry to the wharf; and on reaching there, the crowd of persons became immense. Capt. Evan's Company of the 23d again

received His Excellency on the wharf by presenting arms, and His Excellency having taken leave of the Military Officers and others of his friends, stepped on board the Steamer. Three enthusiastic cheers were then given for Sir Henry Huntley, and three for Her Majesty the Queen,—and as the Steamer was proceeding down the River, a general salute was fired from St. George's Battery. We noticed amongst the large concourse of people who had come to take leave of His Excellency on the wharf, his Honor the Chief Justice, the Hon. T. H. Haviladd, Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, Capt. Bayfield, R. N., Capt. Orlebar, R. N., Lieut. Hancock, R. N., and Lieut. Forbes, R. N., Major Beete, &c. &c.

Thus did Sir Henry Huntley leave our shores—honoured and respected by those—(happily by far the largest number of the people) who desire to see their country governed by a just and impartial Ruler—by a man who, knowing the value of British rights and institutions, felt sincerely anxious to extend them to all, without respect for persons, and without reference to the corrupt usages of former times. For the benefits which have resulted from Sir Henry's Administration of the Government, since, to use his own phrase, he had the courage to lift the "poisoned curtain" by which he was blinded at the commencement of his career, and for some years afterwards, the people of this Island will never cease to evince the deepest gratitude; and we trust that an opportunity will never be suffered to go by, by which the lessons inculcated in his closing speech may be turned to advantage. That speech we need not recommend to the attentive perusal of our readers. It contains a fearless declaration of principles, such as we could scarcely hope to see from any Lieutenant Governor—and furnishes the most triumphant answer to the doubts and cavillings with which some would-be liberals have been wont to regard Sir Henry's sincerity in the profession and carrying out of Liberal opinions.

We were disposed to enter into a somewhat lengthy commentary on Sir Henry Huntley's policy and character; but the extent of space occupied by the above Report, forbids our performance of this pleasing task. A portion of our next week's paper shall, however, be devoted to the subject.

#### A MEETING OF THE BAR

Was held, we are informed, at the Prothonotary's Office this day, to complain of the nomination of the Hon. Charles Young to the office of Queen's Counsel, because he does not happen to have lived quite so long in the world as some of the other illustrious lawyers of Charlottetown. It is certainly a wondrous shame that Sir Henry did not appoint one of his enemies to this post. Of the lawyers who are said to have attended the Meeting, we regretted to hear the name of the Solicitor General mentioned; we cannot, however, believe that he would complain of the appointment, so long as he can remember the circumstances of his elevation to the office he at present holds; nor would it be one whit more prudent for other gentlemen experienced at the Bar—(whose names we need not mention)—to raise their voices against Mr. Young's nomination: yet, strange things are sometimes done in Charlottetown; and it is remarkable that those concerned in them, who fancy themselves to be the wisest, are sure to give the slightest indications of wisdom. As for the Juvenile members of the Bar, meeting to complain of the supposed slight given to the older heads, we think they exhibit a monstrous instance of absurdity, first, because one or two of them were known to fill offices over the heads of bigger and older people just shortly after they had come out of the Nursery, and some time before their chins had put on their fuzzy coverings;—and, second, because by complaining of Mr. Young's appointment, they establish the principle, that no young member of the Profession, howsoever splendid his abilities, and however sound his judgment, has any claim to the patronage of the Crown, so long as their seniors are living in the interesting state of "expectation," no matter whether these older coons be the greatest dunderheads that ever put a jury to sleep.

We could readily defend the appointment of Mr. Young against all the snarling of his opponents; but we believe the Hon. Gentleman needs no such defence, and is pretty much of the same opinion as we are ourselves, that his enemies merit no consideration.