

was proclaimed in England by men of an ambition almost equally reckless, that Englishmen at least were food for railways. An army that might be compared with that which traversed Europe in 1812 has been employed in extending the dominions of our new territorial potentates. What was to become of those armies when the conquest was complete, or the provisions exhausted, we were never told.

We hail the partial stoppage of these works at last, because every additional month will only bring the nation deeper into the difficulty. The employment of three hundred thousand men at full work and full pay must necessarily drain the national resources very much faster than the condition of comparative inactivity into which they would perhaps be thrown. When we have to deal with limited means, it is always better to economize in time. Every sensible labourer in the kingdom will see the justice of our remarks. He will know what it is to press too hard on a poor employer. Had we means for everything, for our ordinary business, and for railways also, well and good; keep a standing army of 'navies.' Unfortunately, however, our means are only adequate for a few things. We can only add a little, year by year, to what we have done already; and most certainly we have not the means for employing a tenth of the people in the manufacture of roads.

THE EXAMINER.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1847.

SIR HENRY VERE HUNTLEY.

SIR HENRY VERE HUNTLEY has left our shores, and as our present purpose is not to write his eulogy, but to hold up his bright example, we will content ourselves with quoting from the Hon. Captain Swabey's farewell address to him:—"As long as it shall be true that 'an honest man is the noblest work of God' so long will he live in our recollections;" having done which we will turn to his party—the country's party—and remind them of the duties which devolve on them, now he is gone; and we hope it will not be deemed as derogatory to the enthusiastic character of his private friends to call to their recollection, that however high may be their enthusiasm arising from a manly and honorable admiration of, and participation in, his deep detestation of all public vice and private delinquency—however they may have been kept together by a community of feeling respecting many things in which honorable minds could not disagree, yet is their position as nothing, and their pains are fruitless, unless they see that the public welfare is in their hands. We call on them—we call on the country not to incur the imputation of having evinced a feeling transient as evanescent, called into existence by the example of a noble spirit, but to perish when that spirit no longer exists in the same hemisphere—but to let the world see that to their hands has been committed as a legacy the emancipation of their fellow subjects from the debasing rule of a selfish and monopolising Oligarchy. Personal admiration of the uncompromising qualities which so eminently distinguished the late Lieutenant Governor, is of no avail to their anxious countrymen, if admiration is to be their final emotion—if they cease to walk in the same consistent path. We call on them to guide themselves with temper, justice, generosity and moderation to all men, but never to "shrink" from the pursuit of the object to which all Sir Henry's efforts were of late years directed. A new era in Island history has now commenced. Through some unfortunate misconception, the people hitherto had thought that they had no friends in the higher orders; and those persons themselves had not seen, or they misconceived the character of the people. The people had confounded all the higher orders in one category; but they may now recognise sincere and devoted friends in that class who have separated themselves from those who, being unwilling

to share any authority with them, must sooner or later yield up the whole to those to whom the independence of the people is as dear as is their own; whilst they on their part, knowing and having seen the people to be the best and most loyal supporters of the Crown, and their truest friends, neither believe them to be an insatiable rabble, nor an ignorant and degraded depository of the powers of the British Constitution. These two parties—though, indeed, they might better be termed one—comprise nearly the whole population of the Island. It is true the old party of monopolists remains as yet, though shorn of much of its influence. Its long command of the Executive Council—the means which it has had of influencing Her Majesty's former Representatives—the undisturbed sway which the power it had of distributing every minor office, gave it, to say nothing of the numerous persons who have sought and found its private aid—are sources of power which it will still employ to resuscitate, if possible, its exclusive domination. But it will be all in vain; the people are awakened from their dream of ignorance—men and things are not only exhibited but seen in their true light—the day of reason and patriotism has dawned, and the clouds of selfishness and exclusiveness, which have long obscured our Island atmosphere, have passed away. Let no minor differences darken the horizon. Not only do our individual and collective interests as a people demand and require unanimity, but we have a duty of devoted loyalty to pay to our Sovereign, for it is an undoubted fact that heretofore the Representatives of Royalty have been held in a most disgraceful bondage. If this is doubted, the proof to which we will appeal is this—let every man judge for himself, for our cause requires neither artifice nor falsehood, we stand in no need of any other skill in argument than the manifestations of truth, which will prevail over the most sophisticated style, over the most eloquent writing;—look then to the Almanack, and there read the book in whose pages is registered the consolidation of that power which till these late and better times held our Lieutenant Governors, as well as our own destinies, in its exclusive grasp,—there read the causes which have led to all the calumny and vituperation with which it was sought to overwhelm the man who desired to rescue the Queen's Representative in his own person and her faithful subjects, from the clutch of this exclusive power. So long as Sir Henry's foot remained in the snare, the dominant party were his most devoted servants; but so soon as he saw the necessity of emancipating himself, and with himself the Sovereign and her people, then it was quickly forgotten whose servant he was, and whom he was sent here to represent. A writer of the worst character was employed to defame both him and every other opponent; and no scruples of personal delicacy—no regard for the general character of an innocent and respectable community intervened to arrest the profanation. We know indeed, and justice demands that we should record, that there were some who would not go this length, and their position would have deserved our admiration if they had altogether abandoned a cause which stood in need of such an advocate. They may yet live to see, and some of these do see, the error of their ways; but we are addressing ourselves to the free and the enlightened who never bowed the knee to Baal; and we call on them to pursue the course in which they are embarked, whilst others seek to weave the chain of official artifice around Her Majesty's newly arrived Representative. Let them be known not only by their silent and unobtrusive magnanimity, but by the high tenor of their lives—their separation from that which is vile—their just appreciation of their duties—their confi-

dence that Her Majesty would select no man, however high his personal position, who is not prepared to do all men justice, and exhibit a sincere and faithful discharge of their duties to the Queen, to her Representative, and to the People. Our readers need not be told that the truly British System, familiarly known as Responsible Government, is making its way through the Colonial Empire—that the organization of this System is not only permitted but fostered by the Imperial Government—that it has the Queen's sanction—that the only limits with which it is proposed to surround it are those of the Constitution, and such others as local circumstances render obligatory. Surely there is not a Colony where this System, so far as it can be applied, has become more necessary to the Crown, perhaps even more so than to the people; for we witness every day that without an alliance between the people and the Crown, without in fact responsibility, the same set of men are permitted to hold not only universal but eternal sway, by means of which the whole Colony has been moulded to their purpose—men who care nothing for the Crown any longer than they can create adherents by dispensing its patronage—or for the people any longer than they can make them subservient to their wish. We say again to our friends—be faithful, be vigilant, let your moderation be known to all men—care not for your revilers, but persevere; be unflinchingly loyal to your Queen and to your fellow subjects, and so you will finally triumph over those who usurp the authority of both.

ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.— FURTHER COMMERCIAL DISTRESS— CONDITION OF IRELAND.

The sailing Packet *ROB ROY*, Turnbull, arrived from Pictou on Thursday morning last at a very early hour, bringing the English Mail, containing dates to the 19th November. The intelligence, so far as it relates to the commercial affairs of England, and to the condition of Ireland, is of a painfully interesting character. We crowd out of our columns several articles prepared previously to the arrival of the Mail, in order to give the most varied and important part of the news. As the melancholy state of Ireland, is such as cannot fail to challenge public attention, we quote from a respectable London authority the following observations:—

"Ireland unhappily affords ground for more immediate action. For the relief of that unhappy country, if nothing effectual is done, something, at all events, will be promised. Thanks to Lord Clarendon, we know beforehand that the present session will follow the example of its predecessors in opening with promises of a new Landlord and Tenant law—promises which in all human probability will be kept like former promises of the same kind. Lord Clarendon, however, hints at some (unknown) measures of singular vigour and boldness. In prospect of an impending famine he protests that the 'sacred and paramount duty of Government—the preservation of human life—will be performed.' How is this result to be achieved it was not, of course, for official lips prematurely to disclose. The inadequacy of the Poor-law 'is yet to be ascertained.' There are great shortcomings on the part of the landowners. Great exertions have to be made in Ireland and 'united exertion' is imperatively required. 'A large sum, under favourable circumstances,' has been placed at the disposal of the landowners, and will afford employment to many labourers. If all this old legislation and good advice prove inadequate, something adequate, at all events, is in store, ready to be produced when the time comes; for Government 'will' secure the preservation of human life.

"All this is encouraging enough if one could believe it; but whatever we may think about the promises, the advice is undeniably sound. Gentlemen landowners, exert yourselves; fulfil your duties; act like men of sense and not like fools. Farmers, go and do likewise. Let every class exert itself to the utmost. And above all let Ireland meet the coming evils by manful and 'united exertion.'