

our statesmen have of late years appeared ready and even eager to relinquish. Wishing you all success in this great cause,—I am, yours, &c.”

Mr. Haliburton doubted greatly whether the assurance which the Government, through Mr. Stanhope, gave to the House last year is quite correct, that “the disintegration idea is dead.” So long as any of those who were its advocates had any voice in Colonial matters there could be no guarantee that what had been done before would not be done again. It, at least, became the duty of the friends of the unity of the Empire to watch most closely any symptoms of a revival of what had been repudiated with scorn by the people of England. We should take very great care that there is no ground for suspicion that in our dealing with the Colonies we are practically carrying out the policy of the past which a permanent Under Secretary of State avowed to a Colonial Governor: “It is the fixed policy of the Government to confederate the Colonies and to let them go.”

The next toast, proposed by Mr. Jenkins, M.P., was “The Unity of the Empire,” which was responded to by Mr. A. McArthur, M.P., and Mr. Alexander Rivington.

The memory of the late Judge Haliburton was proposed by Sir Richard Wilbraham, K.C.B., and appropriately responded to by Mr. Haliburton.

The proceedings closed with the health of the Chairman, which was proposed in a characteristic speech by Mr. E. Jenkins, and supported by Major Moncrieff.