

It is quite easy to find fault with those who rule us ; but perhaps if we gave them a little more genuine sympathy, there would not be so much room for fault-finding. Whatever opinions we may hold as to the superiority of either party, we must certainly agree that each has done good. "Honour to whom honour is due," is a Divine precept, which we all do well to apply in every walk of life.

We speak of our railways and dock, our telegraph extension and steam communications ; and we rejoice in their conveniences and comfort. It is by these agencies that we are making such rapid advance towards a better era in our history. But we seem to be losing sight of the name which was so prominently identified with the introduction of our railway system, and to forget how bitter was the opposition to his measure. Our country's development lies in the operation of her railways, and whatever success attends these developments, will add lustre to the gentleman who first introduced the railway Bill. Since that date—1881—he has had many severe attacks in public life, and latterly deep bereavement in his family circle ; but he has lived to see the railway completed, and he now enjoys the quiet of life's evening, in the land for which he did so much. To the strenuous efforts of the Right Honourable Sir William Vallance Whiteway, K.C.M.G., the railway of to-day owes its inception.

We say the railway is a great factor of progress, but it is not the only one. There are other agencies, which, in their sphere are also of importance. Among these, that of the press occupies a leading place. We owe much to our own local papers, both of the city and out-ports. Though considerably cut off from speedy outside communication, they are generally up to the demand with their despatches. In their editorials they are independent, though in some