

through the whole proceedings was Lord Rosebery,* who was at that time a guest of Lord Dufferin's.

REPORTER. May I ask how Lord Dufferin behaved?

SIR RICHARD. Lord Dufferin acted with strict impartiality all through. I do not think any fault could fairly be found with him. Lord Rosebery, as might have been expected, was also very discreet. But, as was perhaps natural, it was very evident that the sympathies of everybody else at Government House were decidedly with Sir John.

REPORTER. Can you say now what was the effect on the public mind of all these proceedings?

SIR RICHARD. After the lapse of forty years I can perhaps speak without much prejudice. I think Lord Dufferin was right when he said in a famous state paper, in which he gave a full account of his proceedings, that the public mind had been profoundly shocked by the exposures which had taken place, and that he hoped and believed that the result would be to bring about a great searching of heart and purification of public life. This was certainly the first impulse, and the immediate effect was good. But I fear that the ultimate results were widely different, and I have since seen much cause to regret that Sir John was defeated on what might be called very largely a personal issue. That he richly deserved his fate is most certain. He was caught red-handed in the commission of as grave an offence against public morality as could well be imagined, but it was unfortunate in every way that he should have gone down in that fashion. For one thing, as a mere matter of policy, it would have been very much better for the Liberal party that Sir John should have remained in office for two or three years longer and been obliged to face the consequences of some of his proceedings and to have been beaten in fair fight on that score, as he certainly would have been.

REPORTER. Apart from this, what other reasons have

* Lord Rosebery and Mr. Huntingdon became great friends. Mr. Huntingdon often visited him in England.