

that he should, on November 7th, 1885, have driven home the golden spike, which symbolized the completion of the gigantic enterprise, accompanied by the clan slogan, "Hold fast, Craigellachie." The company further honored him afterwards by calling the highest peak of the Selkirk Range of Mountains, through which the line passes, after him, "Sir Donald," Her Majesty, the late Queen Victoria, having, in 1886, conferred upon him the knighthood of St. Michael and St. George.

Donald A. Smith's interest in educational matters dates from the time when the British Association for the Advancement of Science held its annual meeting in Montreal, on the invitation of the Natural History Society. He was then brought in contact with eminent educationalists and was inspired by their enthusiasm. But it is an interesting fact that his first donation to an educational institution was made in response to an appeal from his minister, Rev. Dr. Barclay, on behalf of the Trafalgar Institute, to which he gave \$10,000. This appeal set his mind aworking regarding the necessity of better educational facilities for women, which ended in the erection and endowment of the Royal Victoria College for Young Ladies. His later services to McGill University as its Chancellor and the munificent benefactions made to the institution from time to time the people of Montreal are proud to call to mind, as well as the present to the city of the splendidly equipped and endowed Royal Victoria Hospital, the joint gift of himself and his kinsman and our former fellow-citizen, George Stephen, now Lord Mount Stephen. But Lord Strathcona's interest in education and his benefactions on its behalf were not confined to Canada, his adopted country. During the period of his sojourn in Great Britain, as High Commissioner for Canada, he became successively Lord Rector and Chancellor of Aberdeen University, to the finances of which he made handsome contributions, the banquet which he provided for the faculties and graduates of the university during the period he filled office therein, be-