

decades of accelerating expansion infected the great men who had the making of our world, with a fervid emotion, the direct stimulus was Sir William's simple and sympathetic affection strongly felt for all young men entering the Battle of Life with serious intent.

My first introduction was a formal call, in virtue of my appointment to one of the Chairs he had founded, a call he returned with old world courtesy at my Department in the first Engineering Building. Shortly afterwards, on another visit, he remarked on a cast from a headless Egyptian figure, with a tablet upon his knees whereon was traced the plan of a temple. On my explaining that this was an Egyptian official architect, he sighed: "What, another architect without a head!" Sparks flew, but honours, I think, were easy.

Shortly afterwards the Principal informed me that Sir William was coming to see me regarding the design of the Union, the site for which was being quietly purchased. When he came, his announcement was characteristic: "Lord Stratheona and his friends are putting up a building" (the Stratheona Hall) "for the Christian young men of McGill. I want a building for all the young men of McGill." As a client he proved difficult, and this in an unusual way. The Committee (consisting of the late Mr. E. B. Greenshields, the late Professor McLeod, Mr. Fleet - the late Mr. Falconer taking Mr. Fleet's place later - and Dr. Adami) were struggling, as all Building Committees do and must, to cut the coat according to the cloth, and Sir William manifested his interest by consulting directly with me regarding costly possible improvements in the scheme for which he would give his word of approval. I did not know ~~this~~ then, of course, as I was to learn later, that an architect's certificate against him was as good as bullion throughout the building trades, and that he paid such things as building accounts in cash.

I recollect particularly one Sunday afternoon at Prince of Wales Terrace, when a change from brick to stone throughout, and an addition of five feet to the height of the building had been thoroughly considered and decided ~~on~~