

HON. GEO. W. ROSS

There was no phase of character which he could not represent in its best form. His patience under trial was unflinching and was well known to all who knew him; and above all and over all, there was that conscious devotion to duty which never forsook him, whether it was in dealing with private legislation, or whether it was in leading his followers. 1908

"The party has lost a great leader, the country has lost a great man. While the history of this country is read; while the institutions of our country are being studied in the formative condition, there is no doubt in my mind that the work which he did and the place which he filled will for many years to come be considered as one of the most important places filled by any Canadian. His strength was in his sincerity. As it was said of Sir Galahad :—

"His strength was the strength of ten

Because his heart was pure."

'He was true to his convictions of policy and principle; he was true to his convictions of duty; he was true to his country. That conviction he impressed upon all who knew him; and that conviction has never been shaken by any act in his career. Carlyle said, speaking of Shakespeare, that he was "an English king, whom no time or change, no Parliament or combination of Parliaments, could ever dethrone." We can say of Sir Oliver Mowat that he was a Canadian patriot, whose influence on the history of his country no time or change, no Parliament or