

### THE MANY-SIDED MAN

#### HIS EDUCATIONAL CAREER.

Early education at Eton College. Graduate in Classics from Magdalen College, Oxford; scholarships for Latin and Greek, 1842, 1845; Chancellor's prizes for Latin Verse, Latin Essay and English Essay; elected Fellow of University College, 1847; called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1847; Hon. Fellow of Oriel College; Assistant Secretary to the Royal Commission in the State of the University of Oxford, 1850; member of the Popular Education Commission, 1858; Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford, 1858; Professor of English Constitutional History at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., 1868.

Came to Canada in 1871 and appointed Senator of Toronto University; elected to Council of Public Instruction, Toronto, 1874; President Provincial Teachers' Association; President of the Modern Language Association; member of Toronto University Commission in 1905.

#### AS A JOURNALIST.

Wrote leaders for the *Pall Mall Gazette*; contributed articles on "Current Events" to a magazine called the *Canadian Monthly*; mainstay of *The Nation* (Toronto), devoted to literature and politics; conducted *The Bystander*; founded the *Toronto Week* in 1884; wrote until a year ago for "*The Farmers' Sun*" (*Bystander*); contributed more or less regularly for many years, articles to the *New York Sun*; wrote constantly on current topics for leading magazines and periodicals in Canada, England and the United States; Hon. President of the Canadian Press Association and Toronto Press Club.

#### AS A LITTERATEUR—HIS WORKS.

Irish History and Irish Character; Lectures in Modern History; Three English Statesmen, Cromwell, Pitt and Pym; Essays on Reform; Short History of England; Lectures and Essays; History of the United States; Oxford and Her Colleges; Bay Leaves (Translations from the Latin Poets); Specimens of Greek Tragedy; Essays on Questions of the Day.

we somehow believe there was not another much like him. He was the great intellectual Englishman in Canada; and if he had been twice as great an American—doubtless we should have thought of him the less; though we have long known his singular attachment to the United States.

Did Goldwin Smith himself ever understand the homage that Canada paid him—in spite of some of his opinions? Did he estimate how much of it was due to the fact that he was a great intellectual Englishman instead of a great Canadian or a citizen

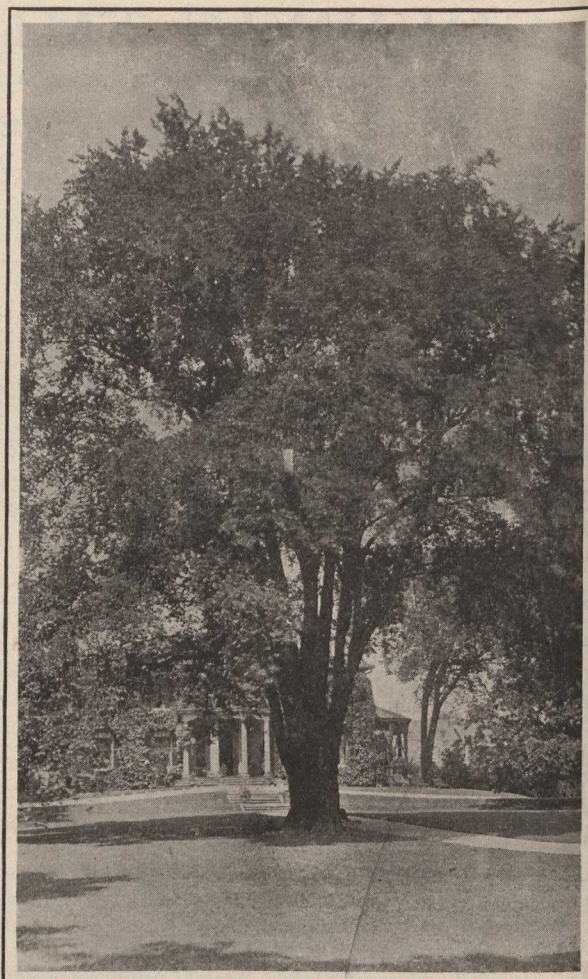
of the United States? Perhaps not. Which makes part of the enigma of the man's life.

Altogether a strange life. It had begun to be singular before he left England, where he was remarkably successful in educational work; where in the world's greatest culture university he was Professor of Modern History at the age of thirty-five. Then suddenly after having once visited the United States and siding with the North in the Civil War—he left Oxford and England; as he himself said for family reasons. Two years later a strange picture of the Professor appeared in that political novel of Disraeli's, "*Lothair*." The scholar and the statesman had vitally disagreed. Disraeli pilloried Goldwin Smith in this fashion:

"The Oxford professor, who was the guest of the American colonel, was quite a young man, of advanced opinions on all subjects, religious, social and political. He was clever, extremely well informed, so far as books can make a man well-informed, but unable to profit even by that limited experience of life from a restless vanity and overflowing conceit, which prevented him from ever observing or thinking of anything but himself. He was gifted with a great command of words, which took the form of endless exposition, varied by sarcasm and passages of ornate jargon. He was the last person one would have expected to recognise in an Oxford professor; but we live in times of transition.

"The professor, who was not satisfied with his home career, and, like many other men of his order of mind, had dreams of wild vanity which the new world, they think, can alone realise, was very glad to make the colonel's acquaintance, which might facilitate his future movements. So he had lionised the distinguished visitors during the last few days over the university, and had availed himself of plenteous opportunities for exhibiting to them his celebrated powers of exposition, his talent for sarcasm, which he deemed peerless, and several highly-finished picturesque passages, which were introduced with extemporary art."

So it was perhaps some unaccountable distaste of the old world and some hankering for the new that first brought Goldwin Smith away from the cultural associations of dear old England; first to the United States and as Professor of History to Cornell University, which was then just being founded by Ezra Cornell in Ithaca; a raw, untutored spot in a region of great natural beauty—which Goldwin Smith himself has so happily delineated in a little brochure published just after his last journey on a train, when he went to lay the



The Grange, its famous porch, and its more famous lawn—  
This fine property has been left by Professor and  
Mrs. Smith as a civic park and art gallery.

corner-stone of a new hall in the University. The opening paragraph is a specimen of the great writer's best style—elegant and impressive, with a fine musical melancholy; the sort of writing that if it were music would be marked *piano* in the score and played on muted strings:

"It was on a November morning in the year 1868, a morning chill, dark, and sad with rain, but bright in my life, that, having travelled by the night train from New York, I first set foot in Ithaca. I was received by Andrew D. White, and after breakfasting at the Clinton House, taken out on the hill by Ezra Cornell in his well-known buggy. There then stood



The Professor in his remarkable library, showing the desk at which he wrote his famous books, pamphlets and editorials. By this old-fashioned fire-place he entertained his friends and smiled upon his enemies.

Photograph by W. James