

building of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Perhaps Mr. R. B. Angus, of whom we hear little, was as sagacious in council and as resolute of purpose. Supporting the group was Van Horne, of dauntless spirit and splendid optimism. But it is unnecessary to assess the honor that falls to each, as it would be idle to deny the supreme qualities of Lord Strathcona. These were exhibited over a wide range of activities, and he never was shamed by any company in which he stood. Through all no spot rests upon his personal honor; no mean ingratitude disfigures his life. Few such men appear in any country, and what he was and what he did are a cherished possession of Canada and the Empire.

Lord Strathcona was not a good speaker. But he had authority, and he had power. As there was seldom any flavor of partisanship in his speeches, he was one of the few men who had the ear of the whole House when he spoke. He could, however, be angry and even bitter, and this is not surprising to those who recall the long and desperate assault that was made upon the builders of the Canadian Pacific and the insidious methods employed in the London money market to destroy the railway's credit. The great enterprise which we now alternately praise and blame had a long season of adversity in a stagnant Canada. Very often the whisper ran that bankruptcy was impending. In those times it was not easy for Lord Strathcona and his associates to take censure with smiling faces and to go on with stout hearts in a desperate struggle. But if the fight was hard the reward was adequate.

For nearly twenty years we had no knowledge