

and other Germans, which gave Williamson in England a foremost place among palaeobotanists, and made Sir William himself the foremost palaeobotanist on this side of the Atlantic.

His efforts to promote the interests of scientific work either among scientists themselves, or among the general public, were never ceasing. He was a member of numerous scientific societies, simultaneously President of both the British and American Associations for the Advancement of Science, and one of the founders and a President of the Royal Society of Canada, in whose welfare he always took the deepest interest. He was one of the chief supporters of the Natural History Society of Montreal, and it was through his efforts that it secured from the University the land on which its present building stands. He was President of the Society for many years, and in his contributions to its proceedings he gave a dignity and character of the greatest value. In 1855 when the Botanical Society of Montreal was established, he was made its first President. At various times he strongly advocated the establishment of a Botanic Garden in Montreal, and on several occasions lent his influence in support of movements to that end. This was among his most cherished plans, and he lived to see a small beginning in the form of a University Garden.

For the student, interest centers chiefly in his relations to the undergraduate body with whom he was brought in daily contact. Few of those now walking the Halls of McGill as students knew him otherwise than by sight or hearsay, but the expressions which have emanated from those of his former students, who knew him best, show that he was held in the most affectionate esteem by them all. To every student he gave the same watchful and paternal care, and no matter how much the duties of a busy life pressed upon him, the sick and despondent, or those in any way in trouble, found in him an ever ready friend and wise counsellor. Many of the graduates of McGill will ever recall with lasting gratitude the great and all-important assistance which he so freely gave. In his daily life, both within and without the class-room, he was a living example of high ideals. It was not merely an embodiment of right living, of a pure life and steadfastness of purpose which he set before his students, but he was a constant inspiration to the attainment of a high plane of excellence in whatever pursuit might be chosen, and especially in the acquisition of scientific truths. This subtle influence extended far beyond the limits of his own university, and there is no experience in the student life of the writer which he recalls with greater satisfaction than the inspiration to scientific work which he received, when, as a student of geology, he first became acquainted with some of Sir William's earlier palaeobotanical work, little realizing at that time that he would in later years be intimately associated with the author in extending such researches.

In the death of a great and good man the University mourns for one whose light was ever set on high, and whose life has now gone out in that gentle sleep of everlasting life which crowns the work of a good and faithful servant.

D. P. PENHALLOW.