

He had taken from no man his due, nor had he turned his public trusts to private ends.

It would be untrue to say that Lowe either liked the social life of Sydney or respected the tone of public morality in the colony. Popular as he became with the masses, there were things that deepened rather than destroyed his innate distrust of the unreasoning passions and prejudices of the 'many'; while, with regard to the 'few,' he saw much that must have made him almost despair of the future of Australia.

To Robert Lowe remained the one supreme consolation—he had fought the good fight. His eight years had been indeed one long battle against Colonial Secretaries, Governors, Society, Squatters, Emancipists—one unceasing battle. But, with absolute truth he could have declared that he had drawn the sword only for the well-being of the people to whom he would become little more than a passing stranger, and for the future greatness of the country that he was never again to behold.