

stand how desirous I am to obtain the "Story of My Life,"—the preparation of which has fallen into the hands of one who had the best opportunity of appreciating its author."

THE HON. SIR ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, (who unveiled Dr. Ryerson's Statue in 1889), in recounting the incident of his having copied, for the Kingston *Herald*, Dr. Ryerson's Defence of the Hon. M. S. Bidwell in 1839, as it was not safe or prudent for him to suffer his own hand writing to go to the press, said : "The incident made a great impression on me at the time, and was the beginning of a friendship with which Dr. Ryerson honoured me, and which ended only with his life."

THE HON. GEORGE W. ROSS :—"With a patriotism which no man ever questioned, with talents which no man could fail to appreciate, with a tenacity of purpose which no difficulty could daunt, he devoted his life to one purpose, the establishment of a school system which would fully meet the wants of a free, strong and progressive people. It is said of Augustus that he found Rome brick and left it marble. It may be said of Dr. Ryerson that he found our school system without any definite organization, he left it highly organized. He found it weak in influence and poor in circumstances, he left it endowed with houses and land and millions of treasure. He found it tolerated as traditionally respectable, he left it enthroned in the affections of a free people."

THE HON. JOHN MACDONALD :—"Egerton Ryerson has deserved well of his country. His best days and his best energies were given to the up-building of its grandest institution. His country guards and cherishes his memory ; and let the young people of this country learn the lesson, that he, who devotes his life for his Country's good, his Country, will hold his memory not in fragrant only, but in perpetual, remembrance."

SIR SANFORD FLEMING :—"I have but to look back over a period of forty years to recall the living form of the sculptured figure before us, and to remember the time when, in the zenith of his strength and intellectual power, he brought to bear on the great work of his life that wisdom and foresight, that indomitable perseverance and patriotism, that zeal and devotion with which he was gifted . . . I thought then, and I think now, that the people . . . of the whole of Canada, of all ages, of all classes, of all colours and of all creeds, owe a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Ryerson, and . . . that we all do well to revere and perpetuate his memory."

THEODORE H. RAND, ESQ., LL.D :—"While Ontario was not the first of our Canadian Provinces to organize a free system of public schools, the grandeur of the outline of its School System and the general completeness of its details are, I believe, unsurpassed by those of any other System on this Continent, or throughout the Empire. This is especially true of the completeness of the provision made for passing from the Elementary Schools into the work of the higher education. Ontario occupies this advanced position to-day, with all its immeasurable advantages, largely because of Egerton Ryerson. . . . Believing that our civic institutions should afford social conditions inferior to those of no Country in the world, he poured all the energy of his great heart and mind into the effort to make available, even to the remotest hamlets of the Province, the blessings of knowledge. Intelligence, industry and morality were felt to be inseparably bound up with the progress of education. A system good enough for the rich and poor alike, and supported at the public expense, was his aim and his final achievement."

THE REV. DR. WILLIAM CLARK :—"It seemed to me that Dr. Ryerson's conception of the work of education was singularly simple, earnest, deep and comprehensive, free from affectation and one-sidedness. We