

put on record also our sense of the geniality which has always marked your intercourse with the members of the society, and of the kindness and encouragement you have shown to young workers in the domain of natural history. Then you have striven to foster a taste for the study of nature in the community generally by your numerous popular lectures on scientific subjects, while in the many original papers which you have read before the society, and which have gone to enrich the columns of its journals, you have pointed out the way by which the student of special branches of science may become expert.

We recognize in you a foremost authority in the science of geology, and rejoice in the appreciation of your scientific attainments and achievements, evinced not less in your elevation by the vote of brother scientists to the presidency successively of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the British Association for the same object, the highest position attainable by a man of science, than in your being enrolled by our beloved Sovereign Queen Victoria, in the distinguished order of British knighthood. As members of the Natural History Society of Montreal, we have felt as if we shared in the various well deserved honors conferred upon you. We further congratulate you upon the high position attained by the university of which you are the eminent principal, among the educational institutions of the world, and upon the growing evidence, afforded from time to time, of the estimation in which it is held by prominent citizens who have contributed to its endowment. Feeling that we were doing a service to future students of natural history who will wish to look upon the features of one who had so much to do with laying its foundations in Canada, we have resolved to hang in our hall this portrait by Harris, subscribed for by members and friends of the society, hoping that it may prove an inspiration to the generations that shall come after us, to emulate the noble example which you have set them.

In reply, Sir William said:—Hon. Mr. Murphy and gentlemen, I need not say how much I appreciate the kindness of the friends who have desired to give me in that picture, a permanent place in the rooms of the society along with those who have been its friends and ornaments in the past, and to accompany this generous act with so kindly, and I fear too complimentary, words to myself. I do not, however, consider myself precisely one of the specimens of the Natural History Society. I hope that the excellent