

He was one of the few Manchester men, who made the immense critical system of that school wholly his instrument, and in no sense his master. His character shewed clearly in his works. Most of his energies naturally were given to mediaeval history, but he could write a general history of Germany, the story of the British conquest of Canada, or again a history of his old school. His patience and exactitude appeared both in an extreme care for truth in the simple rhythm of his style, and in his unerring choice of phrasing. He shewed the same judgment in analysis and synthesis. Flights of imaginative theory were not an attainment of his, although he could make the shrewd guess on occasion. It is characteristic of him that, though a master of method, he scorned "methodology". He said that historical method was just common-sense.

If this notice deals much in superlatives -- which I rather fear Waugh might have deprecated -- it is the weakness of the writer himself. But apology is out of place: Professor Waugh cannot truly be described otherwise. His death at 48 must cause unrelieved bitterness to all who loved him. It is a tragic loss to McGill and to Canada. To the study of mediaeval history it is a calamity.