

and impartiality; his decisions were ever clear and satisfactory. As a speaker on the floor of the House of Commons, he may not have had the trick of voice and gesture, which in a ruder age, and even now, among the less cultured, are supposed to constitute oratory. His speeches, nevertheless, were masterpieces of clear, logical reasoning, and attained their end, namely the conviction of all fair-minded men. They have that sincerity and that appeal to the higher nature of man, with a masterly grouping of arguments, which will ensure their immortality in the literature of our country. As an envoy of Canada, whether at Washington, at Paris, or London, he impressed all with whom he came in contact as a man of superior abilities, and one possessed of a marvellous grasp of the intricacies of every question discussed. In view of all this varied and continuous success, both at home and abroad, we are but expressing a legitimate conclusion, and not the exaggeration of funeral eulogy, by claiming for him in many things, at least, the appellation of great.

But there is another and a higher aspect of the life of the Premier, which on an occasion and in a place of this kind, is deserving of serious consideration. Splendid as were his intellectual gifts and endowments of mind, of themselves they would never have enabled him to win and to retain the esteem and admiration of so many. It was the spiritual element in his nature which developed and expanded his intellectual attainments, gave consistency to his actions, strength and vigour to his reasoning, and won the confidence of those with whom he had to deal. Material as is our